

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 1st April 1905.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of Newspapers.	Places of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.
BENGALI.					
Monthly.					
1	"Dharma-o-Karma" ...	Calcutta ...	.....	.....
2	"Prachar" ...	Bhowanipore, Calcutta	.....	March 1905.	
Fortnightly.					
1	"Islam Alam" ...	Calcutta ...	.....	.....
2	"Sign Board" ...	Ditto ...	500	.....
Weekly.					
1	"Anusandhan" ...	Calcutta ...	1,300	.....
2	"Bangabhum" ...	Ditto ...	1,400	.....
3	"Bangavasi" ...	Ditto ...	9,000	25th March 1905.	
4	"Basumati" ...	Ditto ...	18,000	25th March 1905.	
5	"Hitavadi" ...	Ditto ...	16,000	24th ditto.	
6	"Hindustan" ...	Ditto ...	.....	18th and 25th March 1905.	
7	"Mahakali Patrika" ...	Ditto ...	.....	25th March 1905.	
8	"Mohammadi" ...	Ditto ...	.....	24th ditto.	
9	"Mihir-o-Sudhakar" ...	Ditto ...	1,000	24th ditto.	
10	"Mistabhasi" ...	Ditto ...	300	.....
11	"Nava Yug" ...	Ditto ...	500	25th March 1905.	
12	"Navavarta" ...	Ditto ...	.....	.....
13	"Pratijna" ...	Ditto ...	700	.....
14	"Samay" ...	Ditto ...	800	24th March 1905.	
15	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto ...	3,200	23rd ditto.	
16	"Soltan" ...	Ditto ...	.....	24th ditto.	
17	"Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika."	Ditto ...	1,000	23rd ditto.	
Daily.					
1	"Dainik" ...	Calcutta ...	.....	24th, 25th, 26th and 29th March 1905.	
2	"Daily Hitavadi" ...	Ditto ...	.....	24th to 27th March 1905.	
3	"Dainik Chandrika" ...	Ditto ...	200	25th, 27th and 28th March 1905.	
4	"Samvad Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto ...	400	24th, 27th, 28th and 29th March 1905.	
5	"Samvad Prabhakar" ...	Ditto ...	.....	25th and 27th March 1905.	
6	"Sandhya" ...	Ditto ...	.....	28th March 1905.	
HINDI.					
Weekly.					
1	"Bharat Mittra" ...	Calcutta ...	3,200	25th March 1905.	
2	"Hindi Bangavasi" ...	Ditto ...	3,000	27th ditto.	
3	"Hitavarta" ...	Ditto ...	3,000	26th ditto.	
PERSIAN.					
Weekly.					
1	"Roznama-i-M u k a d d a s- Hablul Mateen."	Calcutta ...	1,000	27th March 1905.	
BENGALI.					
Weekly.					
1	"Bankura Darpan" ...	Bankura ...	1,156	23rd March 1905.	
2	"Birbhum Varta" ...	Birbhum ...	.....	25th ditto.	
3	"Burdwan Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan ...	400	21st ditto.	
4	"Chinsura Vartavaha" ...	Chinsura ...	650	26th ditto.	
5	"Education Gazette" ...	Ditto ...	1,750	24th ditto.	
6	"Howrah Hitaishi" ...	Howrah ...	200	.....
7	"Medini Bandhav" ...	Midnapore ...	400	29th March 1905.	
8	"Nihar" ...	Contai ...	300	28th ditto.	
9	"Pallivasi" ...	Kalna ...	350	.....
10	"Prasun" ...	Katwa ...	.....	24th March 1905.	
11	"Ratnakar" ...	Asansol ...	750	25th ditto.	
12	"Uluberia Darpan" ...	Uluberia ...	.....	.....
BENGALI.					
Monthly.					
1	"Sevika" ...	Diamond Harbour ...	.....	Pous, 1311 B.S.	
Weekly.					
1	"Hitasadhak" ...	Alipore ...	300	.....
2	"Jasohar" ...	Jessore ...	1,600	22nd March 1905.	
3	"Khulna" ...	Khulna ...	500	.....
4	"Khulna Hitaishi" ...	Khulna ...	200	.....
5	"Khulnavasi" ...	Khulna ...	.....	25th March 1905.	
6	"Krishnanagar" ...	Krishnagar ...	.....	.....
7	"Murshidabad Hitaishi" ...	Khagra ...	375	15th and 22nd March 1905.	
8	"Pratikar" ...	Berhampore ...	607	24th March 1905.	
URIYA.					
Weekly.					
1	"Garjatbasini" ...	Talcher ...	.....	18th March 1905.	
2	"Samvad Vahika" ...	Balasore ...	300	16th ditto.	
3	"Star of Utkal" ...	Cuttack ...	.....	18th ditto.	
4	"Uriya and Navasamvad" ...	Ditto ...	500	15th ditto.	
5	"Utkaldipika" ...	Cuttack ...	500	18th ditto.	

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS—concluded.

S.	Names of Newspapers.	Places of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.
	HINDI.	PATNA DIVISION.			
	Monthly.				
1	"Lakshmi Upadesh Lahri" ...	Aurangabad, Gaya ...	.....	.....
	Fortnightly.				
1	"Bihar Bandhu" ...	Bankipore ...	600		
2	"Jain Gajet" ...	Arrah ...	500	24th March 1905.	
	Weekly.				
1	"Siksha" ...	Bankipur ...	.....	.....
	URDU.				
	Weekly.				
1	"Al Punch" ...	Bankipore ...	545	.....
	BENGALI.	BEHALPUR DIVISION.			
	Weekly.				
1	"Maldaha Samachar" ...	Malda ...	.....	22nd March 1905.	
	BENGALI.	CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION.			
	Weekly.				
1	"Manbhum" ...	Purulia ...	400	21st March 1905.	
	HINDI.				
	Fortnightly.				
1	"Ghar Bandhu" ...	Ranchi ...	.....	.....
	Weekly.				
1	"Arya Varta" ...	Ranchi ...	510	.....
	BENGALI.	RAJSHAHI DIVISION.			
	Weekly.				
1	"Hindu Ranjika" ...	Boalia ...	225	.....
2	"Pabna Hitaishi" ...	Pabna ...	.....	22nd March 1905.	
3	"Rangpur Dik Prakash" ...	Rangpur ...	7,480	22nd ditto.	
4	"Rangpur Vartavaha" ...	Ditto ...	800	.....
5	"Swadesh Hitaishi" ...	Ditto ...	.....	.....
	BENGALI.	DACCA DIVISION.			
	Monthly.				
1	"Gaurab" ...	Dacca ...	.....	.....
	Fortnightly.				
1	"Faridpur Hitaishini" ...	Faridpur ...	500	.....
2	"Santi" ...	Madaripur ...	500	.....
	Weekly.				
1	"Barisal Hitaishi" ...	Barisal ...	400	22nd March 1905.	
2	"Charu Mihir" ...	Mymensingh ...	1,000	.....
3	"Dacca Prakash" ...	Dacca ...	500	26th March 1905.	
4	"Kasipur Nivasi" ...	Barisal ...	500	22nd ditto.	
5	"Purba Banga" ...	Dacca ...	.....	.....
6	"Swadeshi" ...	Barisal ...	.....	.....
	ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
	Weekly.				
1	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca ...	600	27th March 1905.	
	BENGALI.	CHITTAGONG DIVISION.			
	Tri-monthly.				
1	"Suhrid" ...	Noakhali ...	500	23rd March 1905.	
	Weekly.				
1	"Hitavarta" ...	Muradnagar ...	300	.....
2	"Jyoti" ...	Chittagong ...	700 to 800	23rd March 1905.	
3	"Samsodhini" ...	Ditto ...	300 to 500	.....
4	"Tripura Hitaishi" ...	Comilla ...	720	28th March 1905.	
	ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
	Weekly.				
1	"Pratinidhi" ...	Comilla ...	400	.....
	BENGALI.	ASSAM.			
	Fortnightly.				
1	"Paridarsak" ...	Sylhet ...	500	21st March 1905.	
2	"Silchar" ...	Silchar ...	.....	.....

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Burdwan Sanjivani* [Burdwan] of the 21st March writes as follows:—

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
March 21st, 1905.

Russophobia.

India. But there is a class of people in England which is eager to break lances with her. It is the influence of this class which has thrice compelled the Government of India to wage bloody wars with Afghanistan. Viceroys like Lord Canning, Lord Elgin, Lord Lawrence, Lord Mayo and Lord Northbrook were not, however, influenced by Russophobia. Self-interest has now become the keynote of all political movements in England. The slightest possibility of interference with that self-interest makes the English merchants mad with rage and frantic with Russophobia. The Ministers fear them. India's interests are therefore forgotten and crores of India's money are squandered for their sake. The Tibet Mission and the Persian Mission were undertaken for their sake, but they would not contribute a pice towards the cost of those Missions. The fame of India's wealth makes her coveted by every Power. It cannot therefore be said that Russia does not cast wistful glances towards her. But so do Germany, France and even Japan. But they know that the 300 million inhabitants of India are loyal subjects of England and that, so long as they will remain so, it will be useless to invade India.

2. Referring to the fear that in future Russia's aggressive activity will be directed against India, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th March writes as follows:—

HITAVADI,
March 24th, 1905.

The Englishman's fear of Russia. If you fear Russia so much, why do you harass her? John Bull is transported to see that "the bull's enemy is being killed by the tiger." But if an angry glance from the bear unnerves John Bull with fear, should he not restrain his mirth and jollity? As a matter of fact, although Russia has been much weakened, the English fear her still. Any rumour of Russia's advance towards Afghanistan, consequently, strikes terror into every Englishman's heart.

3. Referring to the large demand of compensation made by the British Government from the Russian Government for the sinking of the *Knight Commander* and other vessels, the same paper says:—

HITAVADI.

The British demand of compensation from Russia.

No wonder that, seeing their powerful enemy in difficulties, the English should press her hard for compensation.

4. The *Soltan* [Calcutta] of the 24th March writes:—

The Russo-Japanese war.

The Russo-Japanese war is about to inaugurate a great change in the political situation throughout the world. There are hopes that the Musalmans and Buddhists will be able to save themselves from the clutches of the Christians and be again inspired with a new strength. The present war affords a striking example of the way in which God chastises the strong through the hands of the weak.

N. SOLTAN
March 24th, 1905.

5. Commenting upon the statement of the Bahrein correspondent in connection with the conduct of a British political officer in a man-of-war in that island, the *Rosnama-i-Mukaddas Hablul Mateen* [Calcutta] of the 27th March says as follows:—

ROSNAMA-I-MUKAD-
DAS HABLUL MATEEN
March 27th, 1905.

Persian politics.

We have very often said that nowadays every kingdom is like a chess table, and he who plays at it tries his best to defeat his adversary. As in the present time, so in the future, political and commercial objects will be gained in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred by tactics and statecraft alone. This is evident from the way in which our enemies have gained advantage over us after our war with Russia over the question of Georgia and with England over that of Herat. This paper, before Lord Curzon's arrival in India as its Viceroy, more than once warned Persia of the far-sightedness, love of travel, and statesmanship of this great man, but we regret to say no heed was paid to what we said at the time. When he saw that he had to count with a cleverer rival he slackened the speed with which he was moving towards that country, gliding along slowly and imperceptibly like an ant, so that no one might suspect his intentions. It would be clear, if we but kept our eyes open, that, seeing our country awakening to her own interest, during the last thirty years our enemies have accelerated their speed. Lord Curzon's Gulf tour is bringing about its result. It is useless to deplore what has taken and will take place.

DAILY HITAVADI,
March 29th, 1905.

6. Referring to the proposal of placing native troops in Somaliland after the conclusion of peace with the Mulla, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 29th March writes:—

The proposal of placing native troops in Somaliland. May we ask the authorities how it is that Government is so kind to the native troops as to propose to station them in Somaliland? Why should not British troops remain there? Is it because there are no electric fans, no electric lights, no ice and no such articles of luxury and enjoyment as are obtainable in England, that the unfortunate black natives are to be quartered in the burning deserts of Africa? Government proposes to take measures for preventing the Mulla from obtaining arms. We have nothing to find fault with that. If the authorities can so contrive that the Mulla may perish when he reaches his home, we shall not object even to that. But what concerns us and makes us discuss these unpleasant topics is that we are called upon to meet the demands for men and money whenever the occasion arises for them.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

MURSHIDABAD
HITAVADI,
March 15th, 1905.

7. The *Murshidabad Hitavadi* [Murshidabad] of the 15th March writes:—
There are four chaukidars in addition to one daffadar at Muniadihi, in the Kandy subdivision, but none of them are found on patrol-work at night. The new panchayet Babu Syamlal Mandal, is assessing the chaukidari-tax in a most arbitrary fashion. People who formerly paid a rupee are now being called on to pay three rupees.

MANBHUM,
March 21st, 1905.

8. A correspondent writing to the *Manbhum* [Purulia] of the 21st March from Bagmari complains about the increasing oppression of the Kabulis at that place.

Reference is also made to a case now under trial by the local Deputy Commissioner, in which certain Musalmans led by two resident Kabulis of Bagmari are alleged to have violated a temple of the local Raja. It appears that during the last *Id-uz-Zoha* festival, the accused publicly sacrificed a cow and that immediately afterwards they found one of their horses maimed. They suspected the Raja to be concerned in this outrage on their horse, and hence the desecration of his temple.

SANJIVANI,
March 23rd, 1905.

9. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 23rd March says that *gundas* have made it unsafe for peaceful people to go to College Square to take the air in the evening. On the 26th February last, the *budmashes* assaulted certain Christian missionaries and the police, in their turn, assaulted innocent people. Last Sunday the *gundas* came armed with *lathies* in great force and severely hurt Mr. Tahl Ram, a Punjabi preacher. Certain Eurasian *gundas* assaulted Mr. Tahl Ram again on Wednesday last, this time so seriously that he would have died from the effects of the injuries received had it not been for the timely help which he received at the *Sanjivani* office close by. It is to be hoped Mr. Bignell, the worthy Commissioner of Police, will enquire into the matter and take steps to prevent a recurrence of the mischief.

BHARAT MITRA,
March 26th, 1905.

10. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 25th March draws the attention of the Police Commissioner to the College Square incident, in which one Mr. Tahl Ram was severely beaten by some ruffians. On Wednesday last, when that gentleman was proceeding towards the north by the office of the *Sanjivani* newspaper, some Eurasians, on a sudden, assaulted him. They threw night-soil on him and gave him such a beating as drew blood from his body. Mr. Tahl Ram saved himself by entering the *Sanjivani* office.

SANJIVANI,
March 23rd, 1905.

11. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 23rd March says that at a meeting recently held to appoint panchayets in the Senhati village, in the Khulna district, the members at first abused one another and then a free fight ensued. The panchayets appointed were all of the Baidya, Brahman and Kayastha castes. The village is inhabited by a large number of Barois, who are a rising people. But none among them has been appointed a panchayet.

12. The *Rangpur Vartavaha* [Rangpur] of the 24th March writes:—RANGPUR
VARTAVAHA,
March 24th, 1905.

An abduction case in Rangpur. One Srikanta Ghose recently deposed before Babu Beni Madhab Ray, Daroga of the Pirganj thana, to the effect that two zamindars named Sarat Sinha Ray and Mahatap-uddin Khan forcibly abducted deponent's daughter aged five-years, named Khuki alias Saudamini Dasi, on the day following the last *Luxmi puja* day, with the object of marrying her to Umes Ghose, the son of one Hara Ghose. After this complaint had been made, Khuki was traced and examined by the Daroga. The case is now under trial before Babu Bepin Bihary Banerji, Deputy Magistrate. But we understand that the police have not been able to produce the girl in Court. Repeated warrants have not yet proved of any avail. Why did not the Daroga take proper security from the person, in whose custody he found the girl, for her production in Court in due course?

13. The *Mohammadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th March says that during the celebration of the last *Muharram* festival at Asansol, the local Police Inspector causelessly attacked and interfered with the movements of many parties when processions were out.MOHAMMADI,
March 24th, 1905.A case of police interference with the celebration of the *Muharram* festival.14. A correspondent of the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th March says that there has been a recrudescence of the crime of cow-killing in Samnagar, Krishnapur, Jagalgarh, Bhurkal and many other villages under the Jangipara thana in the Hooghly district.HITAVADI,
March 24th, 1905.

Cow-killing in the Hooghly district.

15. A correspondent of the same paper complains of the prevalence of *budmashi*, theft, forgery, incendiarism, murder, etc., within the jurisdiction of the Singti outpost in the Howrah district. There is a band of *budmashes* whose business it is to forge *hatchitas*, obtain decrees from law Courts on their evidence, and finally ruin innocent people.

HITAVADI.

Crime in a place in the Howrah district.

16. A correspondent writing to the *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 24th March complains of the increasing oppression of the Hindu zamindars upon the Musalmans in pargana Sherpur in Mymensingh. It is alleged that recently, in response to the preachings of one Munshi Akbar Ali Haji on the subject, the local Musalman females ceased attending the bazar either as sellers or as buyers, as being contrary to the tenets of their faith. The lower castes of Hindu females also followed the example set by their Musalman sisters. On this Babu Abinas Chandra Guha, the Deputy Manager in charge of the Dihi Sherpur cutcherry of Maharaja Surya Kanta Acharya, sent for the preacher in question, pointed out to him that his preachings interfered with the pecuniary interests of the Hindu zamindars in the *hali*, and forced him to sign a written promise never again to preach with that object.MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
March 24th, 1905.

Musalmans in Sherpur in Mymensingh.

17. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 24th March says that Pandit Mahabir Misra, late a police officer, has written a book in which he has disclosed many of the corrupt and oppressive practices prevalent in the police force.SAMAY,
March 24th, 1905.

A book disclosing secrets about the police.

18. The *Samvad Pravakar* [Calcutta] of the 25th March writes:—SAMVAD PRAVAKAR,
March 25th, 1905.

A correction.

The case of dacoity at village Malancha which is reported in our issue of the 25th January last, now turns out on inquiry by the District Superintendent of Police to be false. (See Report on Native Papers for the week ending the 28th January 1905, paragraph 27.) Unfortunately we are not in a position to make public the name of the correspondent who supplied us with this information, as our printer died about two weeks ago. He had charge of all the correspondence and other papers of our journal.

19. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 25th March reports the following case:—BASUMATI,
March 25th, 1905.

A coolie case.

One Sripati Das, a boy of the *Modak* caste, aged about 14, the only son of his parents and resident in Bankura town, has been missing from his house since *Saraswati puja* day last. He is suspected to have been enticed away and made over to a coolie *arkati* by his cousin, Kedar, who, since being taxed with the crime, has also disappeared.

DAILY HITAVADI,
March 27th, 1905.

20. A correspondent of the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 27th March complains that the Kabulis who hitherto used to harass the people of Bhadreswar have recently transferred the scene of their operations to the village of Andul. A few breaches of the peace on this account have already occurred.

Crime in Andul.

Reference is also made to the case of a lad named Indu Bhusan Chatterji, who when hurrying to the local railway station on last *Doljatra* day, bound for Calcutta, where he was the next day to appear at the B.A. Examination, was molested by certain boys discharging coloured liquid on his person from a syringe. On his snatching the syringe away from the hands of the boys as a punishment for this outrage, he was assaulted by a number of *durwans* in the employ of the guardians of the offending boys.

DACCA GAZETTE,
March 27th, 1905.

21. A correspondent writing to the *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 27th March warns the authorities to be prepared for a specially large crowd at the usual annual gathering of pilgrims at Langalband for a bath in the Brahmaputra on *Chaitrankranti* day, the 13th April, as this day happens this year to coincide with a peculiarly auspicious conjunction of the planets. The authorities are therefore requested to provide for a larger supply of pumps for filtering water than the usual one, and also to undertake the regulation of the present practice of allowing persons to ease themselves on the eastern bank of the river—a practice which is productive of the greatest inconvenience to those of the pilgrims who wish to bathe and cook their meals here.

The Langalband fair.

22. Commenting on the Resolution of Government on the Report of the Police Commission, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 23rd March notices that with a view to reform the Indian police, Government proposes to spend an additional sum of a crore and a half annually, of which 80 lakhs will be devoted to the improvement of the subordinate and the remaining 70 lakhs to that of the higher police service. The writer observes that there was little necessity for increasing the expenditure on the higher departments of the police service, as the officers of those departments were already enjoying large salaries, and the addition of a few hundred rupees to their salaries would not possibly increase their efficiency. It is in the subordinate police service that expenditure should be increased in the shape of higher salaries to officers. For the reform of the police of the whole of India 80 lakhs of rupees is a paltry sum, and it is doubtful whether the reform that is urgently needed will be effected by its means. It must be observed in this connection that it is not at all necessary to increase the number of police officers, and that by giving a monopoly of all the higher appointments in the police service to Europeans, Government has done a great injustice to the Indians and has acted contrary to the late Queen's Proclamation.

SANJIVANI,
March 23rd, 1905.

The Report of the Police Commission and the Government Resolution thereon.

23. Referring to the recently published Government Resolution on the Report of the Police Commission, the *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 23rd March writes:—

The report of the Police Commission.

What we feared would be the result of the Police Commission is now actually going to happen. Additions to the numerical strength and to the pay of the police and similar other items will saddle poor India with a fresh charge of a crore and a half annually. We notice that the Commission placed on record certain strong indictments on the methods of the police, but that the Government of India has made an effort to minimise their strength.

We are not at all surprised at this course of action on the part of the Government of India, for it would naturally attempt to belittle the gravity of the charges against the police, seeing that it might be looked upon as a disgrace to the Administration generally that it had permitted the continuance of such methods on the part of the police.

We notice further that the higher the rank of the police officer, the higher the scale of increased pay it is proposed to give him. It is for the poor constable alone that there is to be no charity. Could not the Assistant Superintendents have been secured on smaller pay? And where is the need of having Assistant Superintendents at all? An increase in the number of the new Deputy Superintendents would have compensated for the total abolition of the

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
March 23rd, 1905.

posts of Assistant Superintendents. Qualified Deputy Superintendents might be promoted to be District Superintendents, but their pay is to run from Rs. 600 to Rs. 900. Why? Because they are "natives."

24. Referring to the recently published Government Resolution on the Report of the Police Commission, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th March writes:—

The Resolution on the Report of the Police Commission.

It is true that a wholesale reform of the police is going to be undertaken; but the reform will not be on the lines we hoped for. We have all along said that the acceptance of bribes is practically forced on the lower ranks of the force on account of their inadequate salaries. But seeing that instead of the three crores proposed by the Commission, Government proposes spending only a crore and a half, it is needless to say that educated, God-fearing men will not be forthcoming on small pay.

25. In noticing the recent publication of the Report of the Police Commission, the *Birbhum Varta* [Birbhum] of the 25th March expresses the opinion that the actual findings of the Commission are extremely disappointing after all its concomitants of fuss, labour and expense. It is like a mountain in labour giving birth to a mouse. The scandals which now disgrace the police will continue under the new régime as under the old. The authorities have contented themselves with merely finding a way in which to spend a crore and-a-half extra money out of the pockets of the starving Indians.

26. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 25th March has the following regarding the Resolution on the Police Commission's Report:—

The police reform.

Making a secret of the things which are fit to be made known to the public, Government makes the people more suspicious about it. It had better increase the pay of the existing constabulary instead of increasing their number. Its proposal to spend half the amount in reforming the higher grade police services is open to objection, because the present pay of the higher police officers is in no way insufficient. The proposal to reserve the Superintendships for Europeans only is not good, as it is against the terms of Her late Majesty's Proclamation. Moreover, the scheme put forth to reform the police will only increase its power instead of reducing it, and the Magistrate continues to be the head of the police as before.

27. Referring to the remark in the recent Government Resolution on the Report of the Police Commission that "the report bears impress of the representative character of the Commission," the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th March points out that of the seven members who constituted the Commission, only two were Indians, and of these two, one was an official and the other a zamindar. None of these two could therefore afford to speak out what they felt in their hearts. Still, as it was, the Maharaja of Darbhanga dared to raise the question of the separation of the judicial and the executive, though, of course, his opinion has not been accepted. Thus it appears that while those who are commonly accepted as the leaders of the public, or those at least who can best afford to express plainly the feelings of the public were not at all represented on the Commission. The advice even of the one or two semi-independent native members who were offered seats on the Commission has not been thought worthy of acceptance. And still the world is being called upon to believe that the "report bears impress of the representative character of the Commission." Such practices can never be regarded as just and truthful by the Indian public. It may be that the moral code of the West about which Lord Curzon boasted so much in his late Convocation speech approves of them.

28. Referring to the recently published Government Resolution on the Report of the Police Commission, the *Samvad Pravakar* [Calcutta] of the 27th March writes:—

The Report of the Police Commission.

Those who cherished extravagant hopes of a radical reform of the police as a result of the findings of this Commission have been somewhat disappointed. Indeed, it is wrong to expect that immoralities in the Police which have flourished for a period of a century can be purged away suddenly by any magic wand. It is not that in the present case, a wholesale reform of the police is not being attempted. The creation of the

DAILY HITAVADI,
March 24th, 1905.

BIRBHUM VARTA,
March 25th, 1905.

BHARAT MITRA,
March 25th, 1905.

DAILY HITAVADI,
March 26th, 1905.

SAMVAD PRAVAKAR,
March 27th, 1905.

rank of Deputy Superintendent will probably, in a great measure, remove the present unwillingness of young men of education to enter the police service. There is, however, little chance that the increase of pay to the extent of a rupee or two per mensem to the constables will be enough to deter them, so long as they continue armed with their existing irresistible powers, from accepting bribes when a suitable opportunity offers. The only effectual guarantee against abuse of power in their case seems to be that furnished by the supervision of a staff of detectives specially employed for this purpose.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
March 27th, 1905.

29. After giving a brief summary of the Government resolution on the Report of the Police Commission, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 27th March says:—

The police reform.

People have long been looking forward with high hopes for this Resolution and expecting that the withered tree might put forth fresh leaves once more, but all their hopes have now come to nothing. It was hoped that a great statesman like Lord Curzon would inaugurate reforms in the police which would do good to both the rulers and the ruled, but that hope is now turned into despair. It is not in the lot of the Indians to enjoy the peace of mind of which they have been forming ideas in their mind so long.

MEDINI BANDHAV,
March 29th, 1905.

30. Writing of the Report of the Police Commission, the *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapore] of the 29th March remarks:—

The Report of the Police Commission.

We are of opinion that there was no need to increase the pay of the superior ranks of the force. Neither can we support the proposal of the Commission to increase the numerical strength of the police and to retain the useless services of Europeans in the force. Nowadays all reforms are unnecessarily showy and one-sided.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
March 21st, 1905.

31. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* [Burdwan] of the 21st March says that the

The proposed transfer of the head-quarters of the Raniganj subdivision.

cause of a number of high officials being in favour of the proposed transfer of the head-quarters of the Raniganj subdivision to Asansol is that they suppose that the opening of the Bankura and Sinthia Railways will reduce Raniganj to a miserable condition. But who can guarantee that their surmise will prove to be correct? Government is prayed not to be cruel towards Raniganj. If it is imperatively necessary to transfer the Criminal Court to Asansol, let the Civil Court at least remain at Raniganj for the sake of the large trade and importance of the place.

PABNA HITAIISHI,
March 22nd, 1905.

32. The *Pabna Hitaishi* [Pabna] of the 22nd March writes:—

A complaint in connexion with the road-cess in Pabna.

The rule in cases of arrears of road-cess is first to auction the defaulter's moveable property, and this was the rule which was all along observed in this district. But for about a year now this practice has been changed, so that now it is the immoveable property of the defaulters on which the hand is being laid previously to the moveable property being touched.

JYOTI,
March 25th, 1905.

33. The *Jyoti* [Chattagong] of the 25th March says that Kolagaon,

A proposed rearrangement of Munsifi jurisdiction in the Chittagong district.

Sikalbaha, Charfarid, Charlakhya, Parki, Juladaha, Bandar, Barasat and other villages near Chittagong town should be transferred from the Patia to the Sadar Munsifi, Patia being 10, 12, 14 or even 15 miles distant from them. The Editor brought this matter to the notice of Mr. Justice Pratt, but His Lordship said that the matter not having been urged before the District Judge first, he could do nothing in it.

HITAVADI,
March 24th, 1905.

34. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th March publishes a continuation

The case against the Editor of the *Howrah Hitaishi*.

of the detailed and severe criticism of the Joint-Magistrate's judgment in the defamation case against the Editor of the *Howrah Hitaishi*, noticed in paragraph 13 of the Report on Native Papers for the week ending the 25th March 1905.

35. The *Khulnavasi* [Khulna] of the 25th March says that every word of what was published in a previous issue (see Report on Native Papers for 18th March, paragraph 12) against Babu Devendra Nath Sarkar, Munsif of Satkhira, in the Khulna district, was false, and ascribes the fault to its correspondent, Mr. Basu, care of Subdivisional Officer, Satkhira.

KHULNAVASI,
March 25th, 1905.

A contradiction.

(d)—Education.

36. We are at a loss to make out, says the *Kasipur Nivasi* [Barisal] of the 22nd March, what good will be done by the introduction of four provincial forms of the Bengali language into the rural schools in the country. There are no less than four different forms of spoken vernacular in the Backergunge district itself. (A number of examples is given to show the difference in the spoken dialects in some of the districts in East Bengal.)

Text-books for rural schools.

KASIPUR NIVASI,
March 22nd, 1905.

37. Babu Pyari Sankar Das Gupta writes to the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 23rd March as follows:—

Vernacular text-books for primary schools.

SANJIVANI,
March 23rd, 1905.

It is deeply to be regretted that those people upon whom depends our weal and woe, who alone are empowered to do all that is for our good, have determined to clip and cripple the Bengali language. Their object is not known to us. We are unwilling to entertain the notion that our Government should ever think of doing anything which would do us any harm. But the proposal of partitioning Bengal and of crippling the Bengali language forces us to the conclusion that Government, like an evil star, is casting its baneful influence on the people of Bengal, which cannot fail to produce the most disastrous consequences.

We fail to see the wisdom of Government in its attempt to make the spoken dialect of each Division its written language and to make a separate language for each. That the attempt is a futile one can be gathered from the single fact that the language spoken in a Hindu village is different from that spoken in an adjacent Muhammadan village. In the Presidency Division the language spoken in the Jessore and Khulna districts, that spoken near Calcutta and that spoken in the Murshidabad district are all different from each other. The same is the case with the Rajshahi and Dinajpur districts, with the Faridpur and Mymensingh districts, and the Hooghly and Birbhum districts. If it is intended to create different dialects for the benefit of the cultivating classes, there ought to be one dialect for each village. Hence, with that end in view, it would be impracticable to have a separate dialect for each Division.

The present situation is most absurd, inasmuch as we are compelled to seek advice and guidance from those who are incapable of offering any. Although the British have come in contact with Bengalis for about a century and a half, they have failed to acquire an intimate knowledge of the Bengali language. But it is they who must judge the merits of the Bengali language and prescribe Bengali text-books. Little wonder, therefore, that after the progress made during such a long time, text-books by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. should be introduced. So the Bengali language, now in its adolescence, must reassume its embryonic stage! What a heart-rending sight this!

Brethren of Bengal, are you dead or alive? Raise a loud agitation against the proposal. We will never allow our language to be divided nor allow our children to be poisoned by these mutilated text-books.

Why cannot our countrymen take upon themselves the teaching of Bengali? Let the teaching of English be entrusted to Englishmen. Where are our distinguished literary men? Rise to save your mother-tongue. Is it too much to introduce our own system of education? Are Messrs. Macmillan & Co. to teach us Bengali even? Can we not establish a Bengali University? Let us make a united effort.

38. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 24th March notices with disapproval the recent letter from the Secretary to the British Indian Association to Government on the subject of rural primary education in Bengal. With reference to the suggestion made therein to confine the teaching to the *Sisubodha*, it is alleged that this book is written in a sectarian spirit and, as such, is unsuited for study by the Moslems, who form the vast majority of the agricultural classes in Bengal.

Rural primary education in Bengal.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
March 24th, 1905.

MINIB-SUDHAKAR.

39. The same paper notices a speech by Maulvi Syed Nawab Ali Chaudhury at a Muhammadan Literary Society's meeting on the question of the proposed establishment of rural schools in Bengal. Reference is made in this speech to paragraph 3 of the Resolution published in the Gazette of the 8th February last, from which it appears that out of the six rupees which is the usual monthly pay of a *guru* in Bengal, only two rupees will be provided by Government, and that the cultivators are expected to provide the remaining four in the shape of scholars' fees. It is pointed out that this will prove a prohibitively heavy call on the purse of the cultivators, considering their actual pecuniary condition.

The suggestion is next made that that part of the course of training in these schools which is intended to make the students learn improved methods of agriculture should be strictly practical and not simply theoretical, which is all that is now proposed. It is claimed that it is necessary to guard the boys who enter these schools against the risk of their coming to look upon manual labour as derogatory to their dignity. The experimental farms in connexion with the existing *guru*-training schools should be utilised to train up a new class of *gurus* who will belong only to the cultivating classes. When these latter have been trained up, they should go back each to his native village, and there make use of the lands belonging either to himself or to the fathers of the students, as demonstration farms for the rural schools. Special care should be taken that the students in these schools are not taught to take views of life unsuited to their position. For this purpose, tables and benches and similar school furniture imported from the model of the luxurious West are to be rigidly eschewed in favour of the simple mat of the strictly oriental pattern. The preparation of manures should be demonstrated in the school-yard.

MINIB-SUDHAKAR.

40. The same paper reports a meeting of the Musalman community at the hall of the M. L. Jubilee School, Calcutta, on the 2nd March last under the presidency of Maulvi Amanat Husain, B.A., to protest against the Government proposal to recognise the provincial dialects as mediums of instruction in the text-books for the proposed rural schools in Bengal.

Reference is also made to another protest meeting of a similar kind got up by the Musalmans of Santipur in Nadia.

DAILY HITAVADI,
March 24th, 1906.

41. In connexion with the proposal to have the text-books for the proposed rural schools in Bengal prepared originally in English, and then to have them translated into different vernacular dialects, a correspondent of the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th March expresses the opinion that the vocabulary of these dialects is not copious enough to express clearly all the ideas which may appear in a book written in English. The translated books will therefore be necessarily very imperfect mediums of instruction. The suggestion is made to the public in this connexion to take the work of primary instruction altogether out of the hands of Government into the hands of the people. It is pointed out that there is no question as to the difficulty of eligibility to the public service arising to complicate the problem in the case of self-help in primary as in University education. The example afforded by the formation of the Association for the Advancement of Scientific and Industrial Education is cited as an encouragement and as a proof that what is lacking is neither money nor intelligence, but simply enterprise.

MOHAMMADI,
March 24th 1906.

42. The *Mohammadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th March says that thanks are due to the Government of Bengal for the great skill and singleness of purpose with which it has embarked on the noble work of reforming rural education in Bengal. Rural education, as it now obtains in the country, is more injurious than beneficial to its recipients. But the proposal to prepare text-books for rural schools in four dialects does not seem to be at all a wise one. It is perhaps thought that books written in provincial dialects would be better understood by the rural population. But this purpose, for which the authorities are ready to lay the axe at the root of the rising Bengali literature and nationality, will not be served even if 16, instead of 4, dialects are introduced into the country, because there are as many different dialects as there are districts in Bengal, and sometimes a district has as many different dialects as it has subdivisions.

The pure Bengali language in which text-books are at present written is understood by the inhabitants of every part of Bengal. The spoken dialect of one district may not be understood by the inhabitants of another district, but this "Sanskritised" Bengali language is understood in both the places. It is, therefore, certain that the proposal in question would, if carried out, only serve to kill the Bengali language and do immense harm to all Bengalis, specially the Bengali Musalmans, in many other ways. The most important part of the education of an agriculturist's son should be practical training in agriculture, manuring, &c., and book-learning should be made subservient to it. It is a matter of great regret that in the proposed syllabus of study for rural schools the treatment of general diseases of domestic animals does not find a place. It is recommended that very plain and elementary books written on this subject should be read in the II and III standards. It is also recommended as imperatively necessary that the agriculturist's son should be taught the broad principles of hygiene.

43. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 27th March publishes the following in English:—

DACCA GAZETTE,
March 27th, 1905.

Text-books for rural schools in Bengal.

Government has published its Resolution on the primary schools in Bengal, which is based upon the report of a Committee consisting of Mr. Luson, Commissioner of the Chittagong Division, Mr. Earle, Secretary to the Government of Bengal, and Mr. K. G. Gupta, with Mr. Pedler, Director of Public Instruction, as President. From this Resolution we learn that the authorities, eager to remove all linguistic difficulties in the way of diffusion of knowledge amongst the sons of the agriculturists, who are supposed not to understand the more or less Sanskritised language of the text-books now in use in the lower primary schools, think it necessary and expedient to have at first a number of model text-books written in English and then have them translated into the local vernaculars for their use. What a happy idea! The field of knowledge which, in the opinion of Mr. Pedler and his colleagues, has hitherto been practically shut by a linguistic barrier from the sons of our agriculturists, will now be open to them, and a royal road to knowledge, which one of the kings in ancient days so vainly sought for, is now to be opened by Government to the sons of the raiyats. What a noble and grand project! And how is this to be carried out? First a number of model text-books is to be written in English by some Englishmen, we presume, and then these books are to be translated into the local vernaculars by those who may be thought competent for the purpose by the Director of Public Instruction in consultation with the Divisional Commissioners and the Inspectors of Schools! All the choicest of gems of provincialism will be scattered broadcast in these model text-books, which in no time will produce miraculous results in enlightening the striplings of the poor raiyats. And how valuable a store of knowledge would they prove to both the teacher and the taught! What an acquisition to the literature of Bengal!

Now let us see the necessity that suggested this scheme. Mr. Pedler and his colleagues think that the sons of agriculturists do not understand the language of the text-books now in use, and as a remedy they suggest that text-books be written in four or five provincial dialects such as the Eastern, Western, Northern, and Central Bengali. But may we ask Mr. Pedler if these four or five or ten dialects will cover the whole area? There are a good many districts in Bengal which differ in their spoken languages. Then, again, the parganas of the same district, in many cases, differ on this point. A boy of the Tippera district, for instance, will experience the same difficulty as is now supposed to be felt by the raiyats' sons in understanding a book if written in the spoken language of the Dacca district, though both these districts belong to East Bengal; so also a boy of Moheshwari pargana will find it difficult to understand the colloquialisms of Vikrampur, though the two parganas belong to the Dacca district. How is then this linguistic difficulty to be overcome unless the text-books are written in at least 30 or 35 different dialects? And is it at all desirable or feasible to divide a common and systematised tongue into a number of dialects which are merely its corruptions, simply to remove an imaginary difficulty? It is not something like using a cannon to kill a gnat, to use a common Bengali adage? Is it not a sheer waste of money and energy to try to carry out this impracticable scheme? The boys of the higher English

schools read all the subjects of study in English, which is altogether a foreign and difficult language, and yet nobody ever complained of any great difficulty being experienced by them. The great epics, the Ramayan and the Mahabharat, written in pure Bengali, are read and understood even by the lowest classes in Bengal. What possible ground is there then to believe that the sons of the agricultural classes find it most difficult to understand the language of the text-books written in pure Bengali which is their mother-tongue? The difficulty is rather imaginary than real, and no reasonable man thoroughly acquainted with the structure of the Bengali language will ever seriously entertain it. Besides, is it not absurd to think of educating the children of the agricultural classes without even allowing them to have a glimpse of the beauties of their own literature? Is it not cruel to confine them within the narrow limits of provincialism and make them rise no higher than their illiterate brethren? The literature of a nation marks the extent of its culture, refinement and civilization, and what is true of a nation is also true of a community. How are the sons of agriculturists, for whose benefit this scheme is propounded, to rise above their illiterate brethren in refinement and culture, unless they are taught to think and speak at times in a far more polished and refined language than their own slang? One of the objects of education is to teach refinement of manners and expression, and is this to be attained by the proposed scheme? Certainly not. What possible good is then likely to accrue from the proposed change which would undoubtedly entail a heavy drain of public money which might profitably be used in some works of public utility? We see no other good except that it will fill up the coffers of some fortunate men. We are much indebted to Mr. Pedler for more than one such Utopian scheme, and as a mark of gratitude we sincerely wish his services were put in requisition in England, where he might utilize his great talents and abilities in conceiving some grand schemes of improvement for the people of his own country. We now earnestly pray that Government will be graciously pleased to reconsider the matter before this scheme, which is highly detrimental to the growth of a healthy Bengali literature, assumes a practical shape.

SANDHYA,
March 28th, 1905.

44. The proposal of the partition of the Bengali language, writes the *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 28th March, seems to have originated from the representation made to

Vernacular text-books.

Government that primary vernacular text-books being written in language full of Sanskritized words were unintelligible to all except the pandits. It was also said that to coin new words from Sanskrit, such as would sufficiently express modern thoughts, was difficult. These were the arguments advanced by Mahamahopadhyaya Haraprasad Sastri and others who proposed to introduce colloquial Bengali into primary text-books.

But in this matter Government was ill-advised from the very beginning. The foregoing arguments are all groundless. The language of text-books is not unintelligible to normal school pandits or to the pupils by reason of their containing words of Sanskrit origin. It would be sheer folly to discard all connection with Sanskrit in writing vernacular text-books for primary schools.

BARISAL HITAIISHI,
March 27th, 1905.

45. Referring to a recent visit by the Divisional Inspector of Schools to the students' boarding-houses in the town of Barisal, the *Barisal Hitaiishi* [Barisal] of the 22nd March writes:—

We do not know what the outcome of this visit will be, but this much we can say that this shew of interest in the students' welfare on the part of Government will be productive of no good. For until the condition of the people generally is raised to a higher level than the present, no improvement in their dwelling-houses can be looked for. What will be gained by a compulsory conversion of these boarding-houses into palaces by threats of disaffiliation? The mere improvement of the buildings may or may not effect an improvement in the health of the students, for health depends not only on good housing but also on good dieting. And, moreover, how few the students who live in boarding-houses in this town at all. Barisal is certainly not like Calcutta in this respect. The majority of students here reside with their guardians and certainly no sudden improvement of the pecuniary resources of these guardians is possible at a mere fiat of the educational authorities. The majority of the students therefore will have to continue in their present

inferior dwelling-houses and diet. Then as regards the question of morals, merely subjecting them to a number of regulations is not the best way of improving the students' morals. We know that the students in Calcutta become immoral in spite of all rules and regulations, whereas at Barisal many students from the mufassal lead greatly superior lives. The reason for this difference is that at Barisal the students are bound to their teachers by the ties of the closest affection. Once this bond is gone, no amount of rules or inspection can be an effectual substitute. But if Government is actuated by some other hidden motive, then, of course, they may act as they like, for arguing against it will be merely crying in the wilderness.

46. In noticing a recent circular by Mr. Pedler insisting on all college students who do not reside with *bond fide* guardians that they should live either in hostels attached to the colleges where they study, or in properly licensed messes, the *Mahakali Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 25th March by pointing to the example of the Eden Hindu Hostel claims that a paid Superintendent can but inadequately discharge the functions of a guardian as to discipline and like matters, and that the superiority of a licensed mess over an unlicensed one is not very apparent. Further, it is pointed out that the persons who will take out the licenses for the messes under Mr. Pedler's scheme, will do so from motives of pecuniary profit. They will therefore find it to their interest, in order to attract the largest possible number of constituents to their own messes, to hold the reins of discipline as loosely as possible. The closing of the Vivekananda Boarding is cited as an example of the fate which is likely to overtake all messes where managers cannot allow the student members to have their own way in everything. Reference is also made to the bad example set in this matter of discipline by the majority of the private colleges, which is likely to prove a fresh difficulty in the way of the proper regulation of the discipline of the licensed messes.

The suggestion is next made that instead of private licensed messes, there should be messes duly attached to each college, under the supervision of a college professor, where the life should be modelled as much as possible on the lines of the ancient Hindu life of the pupil with his *guru*. In this connexion, reference is made to the probability that under the new system of licenses the missionary licensees, with larger funds at their command, will be able to attract students to their messes with a more moderate schedule of charges than the native licensees. Guardians intending to send their wards to Calcutta are warned to be particularly on their guard against taking advantage of these missionary licensed houses, where it is claimed the mode of life is destructive to all Hindu ideas. Finally, an appeal is made to the heads of the Hindu colleges and the Hindu licensees of boarding-houses to see that in their messes, provision is made for the observance of the daily religious rites and of the caste restrictions of the Hindus.

47. The *Sukrid* [Comilla] of the 23rd March makes the following allegation against Maulvi Abdul Karim, Inspector of Schools, Chittagong. It is alleged that on the occasion of a recent visit by the Maulvi to that place, he was approached by a *khansama* named Hadi for some assistance towards the latter's undertaking a journey to Mecca. The Maulvi thereupon ordered Sub-Inspector * * * to collect subscriptions within his jurisdiction, and the Sub-Inspector in turn called upon the teachers in the schools to get up a contribution from their pupils. This work is now being done by the "wielding of the rod." A five-year old lad, a student of the town *pathshala*, when called on to pay his quota, brought the matter to the notice of his father, Janakinath Kar, who, in reply to the boy's request for money, said that he would carry the money in person to school. But the pandit would not hear of any such excuse on the part of the lad and made him stand up the whole day in his class as a punishment.

48. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 23rd March draws attention to the inconvenience and humiliation to which certain resident students belonging to lower castes are subjected at the hostel attached to the Government aided normal school situated at No. 28, Convent Road, Calcutta. The servants of the hostel refuse to wash the plates used by

MAHAKALI PATRIKA,
March 25th, 1905.

SUKRID,
March 23rd, 1905.

SANJIVANI,
March, 23rd 1905.

An allegation against Maulvi
Abdul Karim, Inspector of
Schools, Chittagong.

Lower caste students in a Gov.
ernment aided normal school in
Calcutta.

the students at their meals, and consequently the students themselves are compelled to do those menial offices to their humiliation and inconvenience. Many of these poor students give up their studies rather than submit to this insult. Of the three servants in the hostel, one may be appointed who will not object to serve these students, and the present difficulty may easily be removed. It is to be hoped that Mr. Pedler will take due notice of the matter.

BASUMATI,
March 25th, 1905.

49. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 25th March writes:—

An incident in the Eden Hindu Hostel, Calcutta.

A most unpleasant incident has recently occurred in the Eden Hindu Hostel in Calcutta. The hostel building had been white-washed and adorned in view of an expected visit to the institution by Mr. Pedler, when some of the walls were found to have been discoloured with ink. The hostel authorities were greatly upset by this incident and appealed to Mr. Tipping, an official visitor of the hostel, for aid. Mr. Tipping made an effort to find out the culprits responsible, but was unsuccessful. He thereupon addressed a reproof to the boys of the hostel, in the course of which he referred tauntingly to Lord Curzon's Convocation utterances on the truthfulness of Indians. The members of the hostel now summoned a meeting among themselves, resolved to find out who the culprit was, and expressed their regret at the tone of Mr. Tipping's speech. Finally, a copy of the proceedings of this meeting was sent to the Principal of the Presidency College. The respectful manner in which the protest against Mr. Tipping's objectionable utterances has been made is deserving of all recognition and support. The officials in this country are terribly upset at the least wrongs done by the people of the country, but they are quite blind to the many terrible instances of *zulm* by which they themselves oftentimes harass the people out of their senses.

HITAVARTA,
March 26th, 1905.

50. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 26th March quotes the substance of

The Punjab University tournament case.

the criticism on the action taken by the Punjab University in the matter of the dispute between the A. V. College and F. C. C. students at the University tournament, and condemns the trial as one in which the Principal of the F. C. C. College acted both as a prosecutor as well as a judge.

DACCA GAZETTE,
March 27th, 1905.

51. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 27th March notices certain complaints in connexion with the recent F. A. and

Complaints in connexion with the F. A. and B. A. Examinations at Dacca.

B. A. Examinations at Dacca. It is alleged, for instance, that the examination on Biology in the B. A. had to be postponed from Friday, the 24th, the day for which it was originally fixed, to the Thursday following, the 30th, owing to the question-papers on that subject not having come up in time from Calcutta.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

HITAVADI,
March 24th, 1905.

52. Referring to the Bengal Government's reply to the Hon'ble

Government's attitude towards malaria.

Mr. J. Chaudhuri's question about malaria in a recent sitting of the Bengal Legislative Council, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th March writes as follows:—

The question naturally arises in one's mind why in Bengal Government keeps no statistics of deaths from malaria, the disease which secures by far the largest number of victims in the country. Is it because Government thinks that malaria does not secure many victims or because, seeing that it is not possible to prevent it, Government seeks to keep itself aloof from all responsibility in respect of it? Some people say that the cause of this indifference on the part of the Government is to be found in the fact that Europeans in this country seldom suffer from malaria, and that Government's anxiety to prevent plague arises not out of an honest desire to save the lives of the natives but out of the fear that, being a contagious disease, it may spread among the Europeans and seriously affect the European trade in the country. It is not easy to demonstrate the baselessness of this argument. It may be impossible to drive away malaria from the country, but it is quite possible to check its progress and mitigate its virulence by adopting sanitary measures in the mufassal. Good drinking water and good drainage have made Calcutta, which was once a most filthy and unhealthy place, the beautiful and healthy city

which it now is. And what good drinking water and good drainage have done for Calcutta, they can do for all Bengal, only if Government would care to secure them for the whole province. There is a large surplus in the Government coffers from which improvements will be made in Calcutta. Is it not time therefore that the attention of the authorities should be directed towards villages?

53. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 24th March writes:—

MINIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
March 24th, 1905.

The Calcutta Municipality and the Prince of Wales's visit to India.

It is announced in the papers that the Calcutta Municipality has resolved to make a present of an ornament of the value of Rs. 20,000 to the Princess of Wales on the occasion of her visit to this city next winter. Nobody keeps any account of the divers ways in which the funds of the Calcutta Corporation are wasted every day. So nobody ought to object to the present proposal. There can be no question that this money belongs to the citizens of Calcutta whoever may have the spending of it. But is not this offer of a present against the declared intentions of His Majesty the King on the subject? Though it may be argued that the Calcutta Municipality is not a native Prince, still our interpretation of His Majesty's wishes on the subject is that restriction about the exchange of presents was laid down with the idea that the Indian people may not be beggared by attempting to express their deeply-felt loyalty adequately. His Majesty had certainly no idea that a body like the Calcutta Municipality would take advantage of the ambiguous wording of his wishes and attempt to make a grand show of their loyalty. The offer of a present of the value of a sum like Rs. 20,000 may furnish an occasion of self-gratification to the Calcutta Municipality, but to the Princess, a personage who will in time become Empress of India, it means nothing either of gain or loss.

54. Referring to the recent election of Mr. Mansfield, Deputy Examiner in the Military Accounts Department, to the post of Chief Accountant to the Calcutta Municipality, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 25th March writes:—

The post of Chief Accountant to the Calcutta Municipality.

- BASUMATI.
March 25th 1905.

Everything can be managed through the influence of votes, except the employment of Bengalis in high posts in their own country. In India voting is an affair of machinery, and the key to set the machinery going is in the hands of Government.

55. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 25th March says that in many Bengal villages even unwholesome dirty water has become scarce. What is to be done for this?

Severe water-scarcity in Bengal.

BANGAVASI,
March 25th, 1905.

56. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 28th March draws attention to the severe water-scarcity prevailing among the inhabitants of Entally Road, Padmapukur Lane and

SANDHYA,
March 28th, 1905.

Ananda Gopal Palit Lane.

57. The *Nihar* [Contai] of the 28th March reports from Pankhair:—

Cholera in Contai.

Deaths from cholera are frequently occurring here. The Panchayets are being supplied from the thanas with thirty "cholera pills" and a printed slip of advice. The medicines appear to be of two different kinds to the eye, but no directions are available for the particular application of each. This is causing some confusion in the public mind.

NIHAR,
March 28th, 1905.

(g)—*Railways and Communications including Canals and Irrigation.*

58. A correspondent writing to the *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 22nd March

A suggested road in Jessore.

points out the necessity of a road in the Jessore district from Kalia to Jainagar, which should begin from Ramnagar in Kalia and run through Joka, Dhushati, Gachhbaria, Rampur, Debdul, Dumuria and Naragathi, and then join with the Jainagar Road.

JASOHAR,
March 22nd, 1905.

59. The *Suhrid* [Comilla] of the 23rd March writes:—

Wanted a bridge.

The construction of a bridge over the canal at Raipura has long been in the air. We understand that Babu Peary Lal Rai Chowdhury, zamindar of Shastanagar, has deposited Rs. 5,000 in the loan office as a contribution for this purpose. It does not appear why the undertaking of this work is being delayed. We appeal to our Magistrate to look into this question.

SUHRID,
March 23rd, 1905.

SANJIVANI,
March 23rd, 1905.

60. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 23rd March draws attention to the importance of re-excavating the Panpur-Janjali Chawk Canal in the Howrah district.

PRASUN,
March 24th, 1905.

61. A correspondent writes to the *Prasun* [Katwa] of the 24th March:—
Irrigation works in India. Nobody except one who has really suffered can form an adequate idea of the lamentable condition to which parts of the country are sometimes reduced for want of an adequate supply of water. During a period of 80 years the Government of India has spent 40 crores on Irrigation works, and lost 60 crores on railways. Government is not satisfied with a return of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on its outlay on irrigation works, but is only too glad to lose crores on railways. What can be a greater misfortune for India than that the English *raj* should give other interests a preference over the interests of her own Indian dominions? If 8 or 10 crores had been annually spent on irrigation in India, the country would now have worn an aspect quite different from its present one. Even the desert places on the Indian continent would have been converted into gardens.

DAILY HITAVADI,
March 27th, 1905.

62. A correspondent of the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 27th March dilates upon the injustice caused to senders of goods by rail under the existing form of the railway risk notes. Reference is made to the following case as a typical instance. Eleven tins of *ghee* were recently despatched from Pendra Road station to Bankura station to the address of one Neul Ram Marwaree. But the consignee could get delivery of only ten of the tins, the station-master not being able to account for the one remaining. Enquiry addressed to the District Traffic Superintendent elicited the following reply (under No. C 31-2039-9):—

"Your tin of *ghee* cannot be traced and we very much regret the loss, but as the consignment was booked at owner's risk and a risk note Form B executed which frees the Railway from all liability, we are therefore unable to entertain any claim. I am, however, willing to hand over to you without prejudice the tin of kerosine oil lying in excess at Bankura, provided clear signature is given for the whole consignment."

The case is now under trial by the regular Courts.

HITAVADI,
March 24th, 1905.

63. A correspondent of the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th March says that a coal-train was derailed at the Vishnupur station on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway and blocked the line on the 12th idem. But even when the Nos. 8 and 9 passenger trains arrived at the station the line was not clear. The passengers of both the trains had therefore to change trains at the place. This caused great inconvenience, specially to those who had women, children and luggage with them. It is rumoured that the line could not be cleared in time for want of men. The attention of the railway authorities is drawn to the matter.

MEDINI BANDHAV,
March 29th, 1905.

64. The *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapore] of the 29th March makes the following allegation against the booking-clerk of Garbeta station, Bengal-Nagpur Railway. It appears that there is a temple known as Krishna Ray's temple at Bagri, some four miles distant from this station, which attracts a large gathering of pilgrims on *Doljatra* day from all the neighbouring districts. On that day therefore when the Asansol-Khargpur-Howrah passenger train arrived at Garbeta, it was found that about 200 heads were waiting at the station to board the train. Now it is alleged that on this occasion the booking-clerk postponed the issue of the tickets till to within a few minutes of the time of departure of the train and then, taking advantage of the eagerness and press of the crowd, announced that he would issue tickets only to those who agreed to pay two piece extra for each ticket. Only those who submitted to this unjust extortion were provided with tickets and the rest driven away with ignominy from the booking-office. A similar extortion was repeated on an increased scale on the following day.

(h)—General.

SUHRID,
March 23rd, 1905.

65. The *Suhrid* [Comilla] of the 23rd March notices an allegation that at the granting of license for selling liquor, ganja, etc., in Noakhali this year, the license was not granted to the highest bidder, according to the usual rules, but to a man from Chittagong, who, although his bid was lower, got the lease of no less than eight or nine shops.

66. Referring to Mr. Brodrick's speech on the new British commercial tariff, and the commercial relations between England and India, the *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 23rd March says:—

Mr. Brodrick's speech on the British tariff.

Jyoti,
March 23rd, 1905.

Mr. Brodrick's words would have been appropriate if India had been a self-governed country. He surely knows that there are many taxes in England and in India, the objects of which are to stifle Indian arts and industries. Very true to their policy when real work is to be done, the authorities occasionally utter fine words in order to make a show of generosity towards India. If India's interest is consulted, the salt-tax should be the first to be repealed.

67. Referring to the suggestion made by the writer on "Indian Affairs" in the *London Times* that the Volunteer army in India should be largely increased, the *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 23rd March says:—

The proposal to increase the Indian Volunteer army.

Jyoti,
March 23rd, 1905.

What a righteous policy! India already pays 34 lakhs of rupees annually for the equipment, etc., of 32,000 white and semi-white volunteers. But that is not considered enough. She must pay much more in order that her children, if ever they stir, may be shot. We wonder what makes our rulers see phantoms of fear. It rather serves to incite the Indians by telling them, "If you rebel, we are ready for you."

68. Referring to the resolution come to at a recent meeting of the Bengal Provincial Agricultural Association to spend Rs. 30,000 as the first annual instalment towards experiments for the improvement of date-sugar, the *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 23rd March remarks:—

The Bengal Provincial Agricultural Association.

*SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA*,
March 23rd, 1905.

It is in this way that it is proposed to waste the country's money. The Members of the Board are natives of England, a country of rich people. It may suit natives of that country to spend a sum of Rs. 30,000 to satisfy a whim of theirs, but does such extravagance beseem a poor country like India? We would not object even to such a scale of expenditure if there were any hopes that it would do some substantial good in the long run, but we dare not even hope for any such results if we judge from the past.

69. The same paper writes:—

The question of agricultural improvement.

That the Indian Government is paying great attention to the question of agricultural improvement is a fact which is proved by its published papers on the subject, but as for any tangible results, we have still to see them. What we actually do see now is that a number of Europeans is being provided for at high rates of pay in the name of agricultural improvement. A number of Europeans have been appointed to the Pusa Institute, but they know nothing of the peculiar conditions of Indian agriculture. But there is not much to surprise us in Government importing trained agriculturists from England, seeing that even for the religious instruction of the Indian public, England sends out quite a stream of missionaries every year.

*SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA*.

70. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 23rd March says that the Government has earned the gratitude of the poor millions of India by granting a further reduction of 8 annas per maund in the salt-tax.

The reduction of the salt-tax.

SANJIVANI,
March 23rd, 1905.

71. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th March thanks the Government for the reduction in the salt duty announced in connexion with the Budget on the 22nd March last, and points out that if a further reduction of 4 annas to the maund had been made, the consumer who buys retail would have gained two pice per seer.

The Salt duty.

DAILY HITAVADI,
March 24th, 1905.

72. The *Tripura Hitaishi* [Comilla] of the 28th March expresses the opinion that by the recently effected reduction of the salt duty, the Government has earned the thanks of the poor.

The reduction of the salt duty.

TRIPURA HITAINSHI,
March 28th, 1905.

BHARAT MITRA,
March 25th, 1906.

73. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 25th March has the following reference to the Budget Statement presented in the Supreme Council the other day:—

The Budget.

The Indian revenue is rapidly increasing during Lord Curzon's term of office, of which fact the Government of India is highly proud. This increase has been ascribed to the growing prosperity of the people of India. But, as a matter of fact, their condition is becoming more miserable day by day, so that they are quite unfit to bear the slightest shock of famine; and the best part of the joke is that the more the condition of the country is becoming miserable, the more is its income increasing.

This affords a good pretext for showing the condition of the country in a favourable light. There is no knowing how long the country will suffer in this manner and when the removal of the false screen will expose the real facts. However, we are bound to be thankful to Lord Curzon for the reduction of the salt-tax.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
March 27th, 1906.

74. In noticing the reduction and remission of taxes announced by the Government of India when introducing the last Budget in the Council, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 27th March says that the people of India are

The Budget and the remission of taxation.

thankful to the Government for this favour, and further prays for the permanency of British rule in this country.

HINDI BANGAVASI.

75. The same paper says that the rapid increase in the surplus revenue of India has made the people of England approve of the Curzonian administration, but it is the Indians only

The surplus.

who know their actual condition. The Government of India do what they think best. But the Indians have also a claim upon the Government, and it is that it should see its way to provide the people with food to keep them alive. The surplus in the Budget has reminded us of this claim. How well it would be for Government to spend this surplus in doing things which will add to the comfort of the people, in spreading education, opening art schools, reviving the dying industries of the country, and, lastly, in saving thousands of people from the jaws of death. We do not propose, like the *Englishman*, the abolition of the income-tax, nor do we ask Government like the *Bengalee* to reduce the taxes. We want measures which will develop the industries of the country, so that the starving population may get food and the homeless shelter.

DAILY HITAVADI,
March 27th, 1906.

76. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 27th March writes:—

Mr. Baker and Sir E. Law in the preparation of the Budget.

We are glad to notice that Mr. Baker, unlike his predecessor in office, when framing the estimates for the coming financial year, has not attempted to delude the public by overestimating the expenditure and underestimating the income. If a surplus were found to have been left in the Treasury in any particular year after meeting all expenses, and if another surplus were expected in the following year, the public would naturally demand either the remission of taxation or the undertaking of costly reforms in the administration by Government. It was to stop all such demands that the late Finance Minister deliberately underestimated the income of each coming year in his term of office. It was a highly reprehensible practice, and we are heartily glad to see that Mr. Baker has chosen the straight, honest path.

DAILY HITAVADI.

77. The same paper writes:—

The India Budget.

The remission of taxation, the increased postal facility, and the effecting of certain reforms in the civil administration, as set forth in the India Government Budget, have made us profoundly grateful to the Government. We have derived the greatest pleasure from the reduction in the salt-tax. A tax upon salt cannot fail to be a most intolerable burden to a poor people. There is no tax upon salt in any civilised country. But if the salt-tax be not totally abolished even now when the Budget shows such large surpluses, what hope is there that it will ever be abolished? We think that Government ought to have remitted at least half the amount of the tax. The price of salt would have been made cheaper by two pice per seer if the tax had been reduced by Re. 1-4 per maund instead of Re. 1. Salt being dear in our country, the cultivators cannot afford to add sufficient salt to the food given to cattle and to use it as manure. We hope, therefore, that when there is again a surplus in the budget next year the

authorities will reduce the salt-tax still further. The total abolition of the famine cess, although it affected a few provinces only, has pleased us. The raising of the weight of letters requiring half-anna postage is a boon to all classes, specially to the merchants.

Government should have made larger grants for primary education and agriculture. The grant of only 55 lakhs for the improvement of agriculture in a country where modern scientific agriculture is almost unknown and where 90 per cent. of the population are illiterate seems quite inadequate. Nevertheless, the attention paid by the authorities to this matter is, no doubt, a very good thing. We are, however, sorry that the grant made for Local Boards will not in any way lighten the taxation of the people. We shall deem it a blessing if the amount be spent for the supply of drinking water.

Under the head of receipts, we find that the sale of stamps and of spirits has contributed the largest revenue. This has greatly alarmed us. Similarly, the entry of 3½ crores under the head of expenditure for the carrying out of the army reform has grieved us. The first shows that the people have grown intemperate and litigious. It would have been proper if the expenditure for army reform were met from loans. We cannot deem it just that the money derived from revenue which is the life-blood of the people, should be frittered away in schemes of army reform, thereby depriving them of the benefits which properly belong to them.

78. Commenting upon the Budget estimates of the Bengal Government, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 29th March

DAILY HITAVADI
March 29th, 1905.

The Bengal Budget.

observes that the increasing revenue received from the sale of court-fee stamps, which may have necessitated the appointment of an Additional Judge in the High Court, should be viewed with great concern. It indicates that litigation is increasing—a state of things which cannot forebode good to the country.

Considering how the money derived from road cess was so long misapplied, the grant of a few lakhs of rupees to District Boards ought not to be regarded as sufficient compensation by the authorities. Had it not been for the misapplication of road cess funds, the ravages of malaria in Bengal would surely have considerably diminished. Formerly the grant of only five lakhs to District Boards was almost entirely devoted to the construction of roads. Roads are no doubt helpful to the improvement of commerce and arts, but the lives of the people cannot be saved without making arrangements for good drinking water. The preservation of lives should be the first consideration and the improvement of commerce and arts should come next. The first and the foremost duty of District Boards ought to be to save the lives of the people from malaria and cholera. So long the authorities pleaded want of funds and calmly looked on while thousands died under their eyes. Now that the Government of India has undertaken to grant a subsidy of a fourth of the total income of the District Boards, the authorities cannot any longer afford to be indifferent to the question of drinking water. It is to be hoped that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor will, when making over the 12½ lakhs to District Boards, direct them to make special arrangements for drinking water.

79. Referring to the stricture passed by the Hon'ble the Chief Justice on the conduct of Mr. Carey, the Magistrate of Hooghly, in his case against his *mali*, the *Hitavadi*

HITAVADI.
March 24th, 1905.

Mr. Carey.

[Calcutta] of the 24th March asks:—

Do not the faults of this irresponsible ruler of a district attract the notice of the Lieutenant-Governor? If they do, why does there not appear, in spite of so much public agitation over the matter, any attempt on the part of the Government to bring Mr. Carey to his senses?

80. The same paper says that although Babu Yatindra Mohan Nandi has, somehow or other, been obliged to withdraw his case against Mr. Carey, the District Magistrate of Hooghly, Government should not desist from enquiring into his conduct.

HITAVADI.

Mr. Carey's offence.

81. The same paper writes as follows:—

Europeans in the public service and in the Native States.

Lord Curzon says that although Europeans are appointed to high posts in India yet, considering the vastness of the territory, the number of such officials is very small. His Excellency also says that since Indians

HITAVADI.

become Judges of High Courts, Ministers of Native States, etc., they have no cause for complaint. On one occasion His Lordship said that he was unable to bear the sight of foreigners robbing the natives of the means of their livelihood. But the man who gave expression to such sentiments was not ashamed to issue secret orders for the employment of *Fringis* on a much larger scale in Government service. Lord Carson wants to satisfy the 300 million inhabitants of India by pointing out to them a few Indian Judges and Ministers of Native States. But what we see is that during his *régime* an attempt is being made gradually to monopolise the Government service for Europeans and their offshoots. Not to speak of the highest appointments, His worthy Lordship is making arrangements for placing even the comparatively lower appointments beyond the reach of the Indians.

Such is the state of service under the Government directly. The list of Europeans employed in the Native States is also astounding. The Nizam has to pay Rs. 29,054 per month as salary to European officers, and the Maharaja of Mysore has to pay Rs. 59,277 on the same account. Besides these salaries, the States have to pay pensions, maintenances, travelling expenses, etc., to Europeans. It is generally the European Residents who recommend Europeans for posts in Native States, and Native Princes are consequently left no other alternative than to satisfy the lords of their destinies. Is not Lord Carson aware of this practice? Does he not know that in the Native States many a foreigner robs the Indian of the means of his livelihood? If he does, what has he done to prevent this? Does he intend to enchant Indians with words only?

HITAVADI,

82. Referring to Mr. Greer's circular against race-gambling, the same paper says that speculation in stocks also should be similarly prohibited. It is rumoured that police officers are very fond of gambling. The Police Commissioner should follow the example of Mr. Greer in the matter.

HITAVADI,

83. The same paper says that the working hours of the clerks of the office of the Controller of Printing, Stamps and Stationery, have been increased under the present Controller. The recent remodelling of the office has been to the benefit of its high officers, but the poor clerks have gained nothing by it. Under such circumstances it is extremely unjust to make them work longer and harder than before.

BASUMATI,
March 25th, 1905.

84. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 25th March writes:—
The clerks in the office of the Deputy Controller of Post Offices in the Money-order Branch were made to attend office as usual during the late *Muharram* holidays. Finding all complaints to the Deputy Controller useless, the clerks wished to telegraph to the Viceroy for redress. The telegram was accepted as usual in the telegraph office, but it was not despatched to the addressee. Further, the clerks are now being harassed by their superior officers with the intention of finding out who it was among them who dared to appeal for redress to the Viceroy. If the offender is caught, will the authorities be content with anything short of his head? Such ill-treatment merely for having appealed for redress to the Viceroy is possible only in this subject country, ridden as it is with the insolent oppressions of European office-masters. Unhappy the country and still more unhappy the lot of the clerk.

NAYA YUG,
March 25th, 1905.

85. Referring to the Rolt case, the *Naya Yug* [Calcutta] of the 25th March says that many respectable natives of high position have on many occasions been the victims of oppression similar to that which Mr. Rolt is said to have suffered. But when has Government been seen to interest itself on their behalf as it has done in Mr. Rolt's? It does not redound to the glory of the Government of a country to show such partiality.

KHULNA VANI,
March 25th, 1905.

86. Referring to Babu Ambica Charan Majumdar's interpellation in the Bengal Legislative Council in the matter of the assessment of the income-tax, the *Khulnavasi* [Khulna] of the 25th March asks:—

Has Government introduced a new law of income-tax for the old one with the object of oppressing the poor people of this country? Whatever the intention of the authorities may be, it is true that income-tax oppression is increasing every day.

87. The same paper says that great scarcity of fire-wood, in Khulna town has been caused by the oppression of the local Forest officers. Poor people coming to sell fire-wood in the town are prosecuted by them and punished in the Criminal Court. It has been proved by appeal to higher Courts that many innocent people are thus prosecuted and punished.

KHULNAYANZ.

Alleged oppression by Forest officers in Khulna.

88. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 25th March says:—

New railways and canals in India.

Government will soon make a loan of 4 crores of rupees for the purpose of constructing some railways and excavating some *khals* projected by the Public Works Department. European political economy says that railways and canals stimulate commerce, and commerce increases the wealth of a country. But in India the spread of European commerce is a source of her poverty.

[BANGAVASI,
March 24th, 1905.

89. The *Dacca Prakas* [Dacca] of the 26th March writes:—

Wanted a telegraph office.

At present, for the inhabitants of the Palang, Gosainhat and Bhedarganj thanas, the nearest office from which a telegram could be despatched is that at Madaripur or Chandpur. Babu Basanta Kumar Basu of Dhipur, Idilpur, has been recently trying to get a telegraph office established locally. We shall be glad to see his efforts crowned with success.

DACCА PRAKAS,
March 26th, 1905.

90. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 27th March learns that the

The Postal Department and the Mohurram holidays.

Muhammadan employes of the Postal Department not having been allowed the *Mohurram* holidays, one of them wired the facts to Lord Curzon, praying, that the Muhammadan clerks be allowed these holidays. This telegram was suppressed by Telegraph officers, but Mr. Kelly, of the Postal Department, came to know of its contents. At this Mr. Kelly lost the balance of his mind and vowed to find out the clerk who sent the message. The paper asks, how did Mr. Kelly come to know of the telegram? Did the Telegraph authorities supply the information to him? If so, they are guilty, and should be called upon to explain their conduct.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
March 27th, 1905.

91. The same paper says that the reduction in the interest from 3½

Reduction of interest on Savings Bank deposits.

to 3 per cent. per annum payable on Savings Bank deposits, which is to take effect from the 1st of April next, is also one of the glorious acts of Lord Curzon.

HINDI BANGAVASI.

III.—LEGISLATION.

92. Referring to the proposed jute legislation, the *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th March writes as follows:—

The proposed jute legislation.

India is the dominion of white merchants. It is for them, therefore, to make laws according to their will and for the Indians to accept them with meek submission. We did not know that a law could be made for the benefit of a particular community. Mr. Maddox has had recourse to a Russian practice. He has shown that in Russia adulteration of jute is punishable by law. We ask, is the Government of India prepared to make the Government of Russia its model? We beg to submit that the proposed jute legislation would be a source of great trouble to the country. Let Government punish wrongful practices, but not introduce Russian laws into Bengal.

MUHAMMADI,
March 24th, 1905.

93. Referring to the question, of Mr. Gokhale in the Legislative Council,

The right of interpellation.

the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 25th March says that the native members of the Supreme Council have the privilege of only putting a few questions—a privilege granted to them after a great difficulty—to which Government give an indifferent answer. Obstacles are now being thrown in the way of the exercise of even this privilege, and the Government and its official members seem displeased with such questioners.

BHARAT MITRA,
March 25th, 1905.

94. Referring to the recent refusal of Government to furnish the return

The recent interpellation by Mr. Gokhale in the Supreme Legislative Council.

called for by Mr. Gokhale in a recent sitting of the Supreme Legislative Council which was to show the number of new posts worth Rs. 5,000 and over a year, which had been created since 1892, as well as the names of the present holders of all new appointments, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 25th March writes:—

BASUMATI,
March 25th, 1905.

Instead of the reply that Mr. Baker actually gave on this occasion he might as well have said that if this return was published it would be found that

the majority of all the new appointments had been devoted to the service of the gods (i.e., of the ruling race) and that a few crumbs and scraps might have fallen to the lot of the natives. What good would the discovery of this fact do to the natives? It would merely furnish them with an occasion for some agitation in the press and on the platform. Steps had better be taken to stop all chance of such agitation springing up and the presentation of the return must be refused. If Mr. Baker's reply had been couched in these terms, we would have been glad, and we would have at least recognised that Government was at last plucking up courage to express its wishes in simple, plain language. Whom does Government fear? There is nobody to fear. Of course some delicacy might be felt in speaking the blunt truth, but considerations of such delicacy should not be allowed to intervene when it clashes with direct material interests. Do we not fully recognise that the prolific race of Europeans must be maintained by the Indians? What do we Indians want posts worth Rs. 5,000 a year for? The present writer lacks the command of language necessary adequately to describe the fallen condition of the country in which an officer like the Hon'ble Mr. K. G. Gupta supports the Government party in its intention of splitting up the language of the Bengali people, treats his own language and the interests of his own countrymen as matters of little moment, and shrinks from friendly and open intercourse with the ordinary run of his countrymen.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
March 27th, 1905.

95. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 27th March is of opinion that the Government should have, by a satisfactory answer, removed the suspicion lurking in the questions which Mr. Gokhale asked at the last sitting of the Legislative Council as to the number of appointments carrying salaries of Rs. 5,000 and upwards during recent years, the public impression being that most of these appointments have been created during Lord Curzon's Viceroyalty.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

RATNAKAR,
March 25th, 1905.

96. Referring to a rumour that the Maharaja of Benares has declared himself to be a partisan of the Indian National Congress, the *Ratnakar* [Asansol] of the 25th March asks if this determination on the part of the Maharaja has been caused by Lord Curzon's exaction of a few pieces of valuable furniture from him some time ago.

BHARAT MITRA,
March 25th, 1905.

97. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 25th March says that it is only the Native State in which competent educated natives could get a Dewarship, a membership of the Local Council and a Chief Judgeship. But these appointments are also now being filled up by Europeans, to the disappointment of the Indians.

The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* pointed out the other day how all the big posts in the Hyderabad State were being monopolized by Europeans.

The same paper has now published a list of English officers in the Mysore State.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
27th March, 1905.

98. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 27th March is glad that the Government has been pleased to increase the pension of Aug Singh of Manipur by Rs. 5, with effect from April next, for a period of six months only, but hopes that Government will be so good as to make this increase permanent.

The same paper observes that a pension of Rs. 75 a month is too small for a prince like Kala Chand who occupied a golden throne at one time. There is no doubt Government is kind to the two brothers, as they have been brought from the Andamans to settle in Hazaribagh, and if they are in pecuniary troubles it is because of the inattention of the local authorities.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

PRATIKAR,
March 24th, 1905.

99. The *Pratihar* [Berhampur] of the 24th March writes that in addition to the damage to the crops in Bengal already caused by the untimely rain and the frost of the past few months, it is now reported that the torrents of rain which fell on the 7th, 8th and 9th March last have caused no end of damage to the crops in the country about Bagri.

100. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 25th March says that while the Collectors of the 24 Parganas, Hooghly, Midnapore and other districts have reported to the Government

BANGAVASI,
March 25th, 1905.

Failure of crops. that no damage has been caused to crops by the recent frost, reports of the failure of the *rabi* and potato crops are forthcoming from the inhabitants of those districts.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

101. The *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 22nd March notices the following allegations against Dr. Bancroft, the Civil Surgeon of Sylhet. It appears that recently one day while the doctor was out driving through a village he came

JASOHAR,
March 22nd, 1905.

An allegation against Dr. Bancroft, the Civil Surgeon of Sylhet.

across a postal peon passing along in a hurry, who failed to give him the salute which he required as his due. This put out the doctor so much that he gave chase to the peon, whip in hand, to give him a chastisement, but after continuing the chase for a time unsuccessfully, desisted. It is remarked that this incident must no doubt be regarded as one very pleasing to the eye and indicative of the noble character of the English race.

102. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 23rd March has an article in which it refers to the services done to the country by Ram Mohan Ray, Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar, Debendra Nath Tagore, Ram Gopal Ghosh, Bankim Chandra Chatterji, Kristodas Pal and Surendra Nath Banerji, and writes as follows:—

SANJIVANI,
March 23rd, 1905.

The want of patriotic zeal in young men.

But nowadays our young men do not take a leading part in any great question affecting the interests of the country. It is the elderly men who do all that is required to be done. A new era has dawned upon the country: new fields of work and activity have come into existence requiring public spirit and self-sacrifice. The question is, how to rouse our young men from their lethargy? Those who have devoted their lives to their country's cause are growing older day by day, and cannot be expected to continue in their work for a much longer period. Younger men should therefore come forward and take up the work. But who will explain to them the necessity of doing so, or put energy and enthusiasm into their minds? Surendra Nath is still among us; his voice is not silent. But the young mind no longer responds to his trumpet call. The time has come when every man who has a love for his country should lay aside selfishness and petty jealousies, and give encouragement to the young men, upon whose patriotic zeal and devotion the future of the country entirely depends.

103. Babu Jogendranath Ghosh of Tamluk writes to the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 23rd March suggesting that the forthcoming Bengal Provincial Conference should consider the desirability of having an Executive

SANJIVANI,
March 23rd, 1905.

A suggestion to the forthcoming Bengal Provincial Conference.

Council for each of the provinces of Bengal, the United Provinces, the Punjab and Burma consisting of one European and one native member. There are Executive Councils in all civilized countries. Even the autocrat of all the Russias has four Councils. Why then should such a country as India be an exception? Government can have no objection to the proposal, as the presence of a native member in the Council would give it many advantages and would at the same time convince the people that they are gradually getting higher political privileges.

104. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 23rd March writes:—

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
March 23rd, 1905.

The Prince of Wales's Indian visit.

The Viceroy spent the last week practically with closed doors in his house. The cause is imagined by some people to be the recent protest meeting at the Town Hall, but according to the *Indian Planter's Gazette*, His Excellency is only thinking out in retirement the details in connexion with the Prince of Wales's forthcoming visit.

105. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] on the 25th March writes:—

BASUMATI,
March 25th, 1905.

The Prince of Wales's Indian visit.

It is announced in the papers in connexion with the Prince of Wales's visit to India next winter that by virtue of a special warrant from the King, the Prince of Wales will be enabled to hold his own darbars, where

Lord Curzon will not be allowed to take the lead. This is just what is wanted. We are extremely glad at this piece of news. Lord Curzon is a conceited man, who does not hesitate to degrade even his superiors, in order to keep his own predominance intact. At the late Delhi Darbar he kept himself in the first place and relegated the King's brother, the Duke of Connaught, to the second position. This arrangement greatly displeased the Indian public. From their point of view it was quite unseemly that a servant of the King's, though he be the first servant in the Empire, should take precedence over the King's brother. The Indian public would have been greatly sorry to see a repetition of a similar state of things in connexion with the Prince of Wales's visit. All such risk, however, seems to be now removed if this piece of information is correct. It can certainly never look well that if the Prince who is the future Emperor of India should move at the beck and nod of a man who, however high his position, is after all a servant of the Emperor's. Lord Curzon will probably be secretly dissatisfied with this new arrangement if we consider what an egotistic man he is. There is, however, still a way left for His Excellency to console himself by. He may easily induce the public to believe by means of speeches that it was at his initiation and by his desire that this precedence has been accorded to the Prince on the present occasion.

BANGAVASI,
March 25th, 1905.

106. Referring to the fact that in the Delhi Darbar Lord Curzon took precedence over the Duke of Connaught and the fear that this may deter the Prince of Wales from visiting India, the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 25th March says:—

Precedence is a point of distinction which finds a place in European politics only. Who does not know that while the Prince of Wales is the future Emperor of India, Lord Curzon is only the salaried Viceroy for a few years?

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
March 23rd, 1905.

107. Referring to the recent meetings in Madras and the Punjab on the lines of the late Calcutta Town Hall meeting of protest against Lord Curzon's Convocation speech and general policy, the *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 23rd March writes:—

Lord Curzon.

The conviction must now slowly force itself into Lord Curzon's mind that His Excellency has really become unpopular with the natives of India. We cannot well imagine even after giving the coolest consideration to the matter how the King of England is a great gainer by having Lord Curzon as administrator of his Indian dominions. Lord Curzon has aspersed our national character; but of course our national character is not going to be degraded on that account. What pains us more is to think that a man placed in the pre-eminently high office of Viceroy of India should suddenly imitate the conduct of a thoughtless juvenile and degrade his dignity by indicting a whole nation. His administrative policy has injured in many ways both the interests of the natives of India and the reputation of the English Government for justice. His Excellency made a mistake in accepting a renewal of his term of office. But there is yet time. We trust before the time comes for him to leave our shores, he will retrieve his past errors and so act as to win popular gratitude.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
March 24th, 1905.

108. Referring to the late Town Hall protest meeting, a correspondent of the *Education Gazette* [Chinsura] of the 24th March writes:—

The Town Hall protest meeting.

The holding of this meeting can be attributed directly to the influence of English education, for it was not in accordance with the Oriental ideas of the fitness of things. But Western education teaches a man always to speak out the thought that is uppermost in his mind for the moment and destroys his sense of the important and the unimportant. Otherwise why should the Viceroy think of entering on a defence of his own policy before the graduates of the University? Why, again, should the English-educated section of the Indian community, subjects as they are, display the want of restraint indicated by a criticism of the acts of their rulers? It is fortunate for India that the vast majority of her population, who possess no knowledge of English, know nothing of these things and still retain their old Oriental ideas of politeness. It would have indicated a better recognition of our real status if we had

not entered on this protest at all. I trust Lord Curzon will not afford any encouragement to the leaders of the present agitation by taking any public notice of this protest. Was it well to have said the things that were actually said at the meeting? If we consider to whom the words were addressed, and on what grounds, do they quite express the gratitude which is due to our rulers?

109. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 25th March writes:—

DAILY HITAVADI,
March 25th, 1905.

Certain actions of the Lieutenant-Governor on the day that the Town Hall meeting of protest was held are considered by some people to indicate that His Honour privately tried to make that meeting a failure. For instance, it is pointed out that when about 10 days before that meeting was announced to take place, the Governors of the Oriental Seminary approached His Honour with a request to preside over the annual prize distribution ceremony of that institution, His Honour fixed the very date and the very hour for the prize-giving ceremony, at which the Town Hall meeting was to take place. Consequently some of the Governors of the Seminary, though in full sympathy with the Town Hall meeting, could not be present there. It may be that the coincidence was quite accidental, but it is natural that it should lead to suppositions like these.

110. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th March writes:—

DAILY HITAVADI,
March 26th, 1905.

The Indian Association and the Viceroy's Convocation speech.

The Indian Association has done a laudable piece of work. Just as it has on the one hand arranged for the free distribution among our countrymen of a pamphlet in easy Bengali teaching "our duties," so, on the other, it has got up a pamphlet on Lord Curzon's Convocation speech. This pamphlet contains the Convocation speech, Dr. Rash Bihary Ghose's speech at the Town Hall protest meeting, and the opinions of the leading Anglo-Indian papers on that speech. A few hundred copies of this pamphlet were sent by mail to England on the 23rd March last, for circulation among Members of Parliament and the English Press. We are glad at this activity on the part of the Association. We trust this pamphlet will give the English public a correct idea of the manifold virtues of our present Viceroy.

111. The same paper publishes Babu Rabindra Nath Tagore's speech in continuation:—

DAILY HITAVADI.

Babu Rabindra Nath Tagore's speech.

True, our hopes and aspirations are, under the present state of things, based upon the most unstable foundations. For, what one authority may grant us to-day in pity another may ruthlessly snatch away to-morrow at his pleasure. Nature's law is inexorable; everybody must bow to it. The English must rule over us. They must have us completely under their thumb. Wherever they may suspect the least weakening of the administrative machinery, there they must perforce hammer down a few more nails to make it stronger. This is quite natural—it is the same all over the world. It cannot be otherwise in our own case simply because we can argue closely and can speak faultless English. In any case it would not do to lose one's temper over such a case.

One thing we ought always to bear in mind, namely, how very mean we appear in the eyes of the English. It is in the nature of things that persons occupying a superior position cannot have the nice perception required to differentiate and scrutinize the mortal pain and the fatal loss of a people who are so utterly insignificant. It is because we appear so contemptible that Lord Curzon the other day wondered why we could not feel proud in the thought that we were citizens of the British Empire. Good heavens! What is this? This sounds just like the address of a lover! Are we to be classed with the Australians or the Canadians whom the English long to include within the embrace of imperialism, whom they are trying to please by singing serenades under their windows, and for whom they have volunteered even to tax their own bread! If such extravagant hyperbole does not put him to shame who makes it, we on our part are really ashamed of it. For what are we called upon to appear in the imperial presence chamber, we who have no place in Australia, who have been humiliated in Natal, and who have been deprived of many a valued privilege at home? The spectacle is indeed a funny one and may be fitly likened to the warm welcome when offered to a kid to join a solemn festival at which many distinguished guests have been invited. Alas! the poor kid alone knows the difference between itself and the other invited guests. It

knows too well that it can only sacrifice itself for the entertainment of the honoured guests. But the host little feels the anguish of soul which the poor animal feels, so worthless it seems to be. The Imperialists must invade the territory of the inoffensive Tibetans, and we enjoy the right of supplying the expenses of the expedition. They must go to pacify Somaliland, and we are privileged to lay down our lives for the purpose. If it be necessary to fertilize a barren colony situated within the tropics, it is ours to supply cheap labour. When the great and the small have to engage in any enterprise together, this rule always holds.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
March 27th, 1905.

The protest meeting against
Lord Curzon's Convocation speech.

112. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 27th March notices the protest meeting which was held in Madras against Lord Curzon's Convocation speech.

SANDHYA,
March 28th, 1905.

113. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 28th March writes:—

"The plain-spoken Viceroy."

In our attempt to give a retort to Lord Curzon's vilification of the Indian character, we unwillingly censured the Indian Government. As we are unwilling to introduce English ideals into India, it is not our purpose to quarrel with the Government. In England it is usual to try to discredit the Government, and it is permissible to do so there. In England the King is a mere puppet who fills the throne. He is not permitted to have anything to do with the public revenues or to spend a single farthing out of them for his own use beyond what may be granted to him by the people. The ministers are solicitous for the votes of the people. The Indians do not know what it is to manage the affairs of an empire by means of votes. It is certain that the English will never grant us such freedom. In their writings and their speeches they declare that they have come to India to spread the light of freedom. This may be called a civilised falsehood. One must speak falsehood in language as palatable as the foregoing, otherwise one cannot be called civilised. What is civilisation? If you wish to give a shoe-beating to any person, do so, only do not use a bare shoe, but roll it up in a handkerchief. If anybody should come to you for the loan of your ladder, never say you have not got it, but say that it is shut up in the chest. It is a lie no doubt, but it is none the less civilisation.

The English have publicly taken a solemn vow that they will treat us as equals. They made this vow for fear of the sepoys. The sepoys made the English weep bitter tears, and if the revolt had spread among the people, then indeed our English brethren would have been glad to pack out and fly the country. It was for this reason that Government was obliged, through fear, to make the promise that no distinction would be made between the whites and the blacks. But now, though the fear is gone, yet the outward form of civilisation still remains, and thus the promise once made lingers in writings and speeches as an example of falsehood current in civilised life.

But however well we may learn the English language or ape English manners, we shall never succeed in assimilating that piece of English civilisation. We are a barbarous people, how then can we attain such a high ideal merely by reading a few pages of English? Our English-knowing Babus have no knowledge of that civilised way of lying, and therefore do they cry for equality of treatment. The noise they were making proved so annoying that the English were not a little confused. The English of course have no fear that the Babus could drive them away from the country. But so long they could not give up their feigned civilisation, the Babus demanded to know why, if Englishmen and Indians were equal, higher posts were not given them, and Englishmen, thoroughly handicapped by the laws of civilisation, were obliged to assign various reasons for the apparent inequality and to assume an apologetic tone. But this is only an instance of deception practised by civilised peoples. It was found that civilised methods would not apply when dealing with uncivilised people, whose outrageous demands and defiant behaviour had become quite intolerable. It is for this reason that Lord Curzon has made a clean breast of the whole thing and revealed the true temper of the English people. So, now there is no longer any trace of dissimulation. He has said plainly that in future natives would never get Police Superintendships. The plain-spoken Viceroy has once for all removed all misconceptions in the matter. The English are not so foolish that they will make over the police service to us and themselves stand aloof. Now that it has been

said in so many words that Englishmen and natives are not equal, it is useless to bandy words. It would be best to take steps to develop our internal strength, so that we may command respect. The English really regard us as liars and knaves. Lord Curzon has plainly told us that we are looked upon in that light by Englishmen. If an armed man should abuse a defenceless man, it would be prudent for the latter to keep quiet.

Lord Curzon, Your Excellency has taught us that we are a nation of slaves. For that lesson, thanks.

114. The *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapore] of the 29th March writes:—

MEDINI BANDHAV,
March 29th, 1905

The Viceroy's Convocation speech.

Since 1864, Bengal has been visited by many cyclones and earthquakes. The Chancellor's speech of 1905 is to be counted as one of the number. It cannot be said of these visitations of nature that the public retain only the memory of them; for as a consequence of them, they have recognised the need of building their dwelling houses on firmer foundation and of better materials. Similarly, why should not the present speech leave behind it some permanent effect in the shape of some improvement in our society? Just as the cyclones and earthquakes were ordained by Providence with a purpose, so in the present case also it may be taken that by stirring up the highest political authority in the land God meant to til the fields of our minds.

115. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 24th March writes:—

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
March 24th, 1905.

Lady Curzon's return to India.

Our contemporary of the *Indian Planter's Gazette*, in one of its recent issues, states that no Indian gentleman was present either at Howrah or at Government House to welcome Lady Curzon back to Calcutta, and interprets this absence as showing the extent to which Lord Curzon has become unpopular by his late Convocation speech. A great barrier has suddenly sprung up between the two races. We, however, disagree with our contemporary's view of the situation. It may be a fact that no Indian was present in person to welcome Lady Curzon back, but all the same we insist that the entire Indian public are glad at Her Excellency's return. We honour and respect Lady Curzon as a lady gifted with many virtues and talents. Her continued stay with her husband may mean great good to this hapless race. We have yet hopes that Lord Curzon will see the mistake he has made and will make honourable amends to the Bengali public. The Bengalis have long recognised His Excellency's extraordinary intellectual gifts. As our Viceroy we have always regarded him with awe and respect.

116. Referring to the book of advice which Lord Curzon has written for European soldiers out shooting in India, the *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 24th March says:—

SAMAY,
March 24th, 1905.

Lord Curzon's advice to soldiers out shooting.

His Excellency's object in publishing this book is doubtless very noble. But the book does not contain a full remedy for the evil sought to be removed. The best method of preventing a crime is to adequately punish the present offender charged with it, because by so doing you strike terror into the heart of the future offender. If the present offender is lightly punished or released, the future offender is encouraged. It is acknowledged on all hands that in India white offenders against natives are very inadequately punished or even discharged.

Will His Excellency's advice not to shoot birds and beasts sacred to the natives, free them from all fear from the white soldier? Will this advice prevent the lustful white soldier from violating or seeking to violate the modesty of native women? Mere words of mouth would be, in our opinion, ineffectual in preventing the vagaries of the white soldier. But Lord Curzon would be doing a great service to the Indians if he arranged for European soldiers out shooting being accompanied by such persons as can keep them under control and understand the native dialects.

117. Referring to the recent indisposition of Lord Curzon which prevented

BASUMATI
March 25th, 1905.

Lord Curzon's recent indisposition.

His Excellency from attending the meeting of the Supreme Legislative Council on the 22nd March last, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 25th March writes:—

We are sorry at the news of His Excellency's indisposition and we hope that God will soon restore him to perfect health. Considering how hard he labours in the discharge of his official duties, there is nothing strange if he

becomes indisposed. In addition it is most probable that his mind also has been upset by the way in which the entire Indian public has protested against his unrestrained language and his illiberal policy.

Nava Yug,
March 25th, 1905.

118. The *Nava Yug* [Calcutta] of the 25th March says that read between the lines the Viceroy's Dacca and Mymensingh speeches show that His Excellency bears a defiant attitude towards the Indian National Congress.

Lord Curzon's opinion of the Congress.

He plainly said that every public agitation in this country is got up by the native educated community. As a matter of fact, the general public is now convinced that it is the interest of the educated community only which is connected with the questions yearly discussed in the Congress. Lord Curzon knows this, and this is what has led him to launch various reforms in the country.

DAILY HITAVADI,
March 25th, 1905.

119. In noticing the recent "At Home" given at Belvedere by Lady Fraser, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 25th March expresses pleasure at the urbanity which was displayed by both Sir A. and Lady Fraser on that occasion, and remarks that nobody, be he Indian or European, could say that he came away from the party dissatisfied.

Lady Fraser's "At Home."

DAILY HITAVADI,

120. Manoranjan Guha, writing from his address, No. 22, Puddopukur Road, Bhawanipur, Calcutta, to the same

A suggested treatment for the plague.

paper gives the following as a new method of treatment for the plague, which is said to have given successful results in many cases after trial in certain places in the Hazaribagh, Gaya and Dumka districts. A rupee after being made red-hot by being held over a flame by a pair of tongs, should be pressed against the swollen glands so as to burn them. The operation is to be repeated twice or thrice with respect to all the swellings in whichever part of the body they may appear, whether at the armpits or at the groins.

DAILY HITAVADI,
March 26th, 1905.

121. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th March is glad to hear

An "Indian Home Rule Society" in London.

that the Indians resident in England for purposes of study, &c., have recently organised an "Indian Home Rule Society" in London. The object of this organisation is to attempt to obtain a separate Parliament for India, like that agitated for by the Irish for their own country. Pandit Syamaji Krishnavarma has accepted the office of President. The society is likely to meet with a great many obstacles in the path of the realisation of its aims. The authorities in England hesitate about granting Home Rule to Ireland from the apprehension that the grant of this concession to Ireland would be the sure precursor of a similar demand from India. But thanks to the efforts of the Irish Nationalists, the agitation for Home Rule has now reached such a point that it does not seem likely that it will be possible for the English Ministers to defer granting it much longer. With this example there is every hope that the agitation for Indian Home Rule would be similarly successful in time.

HITAVARTA,
March 26th, 1905.

122. In an article on the *Holi* festival, the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 26th March has the following:—

The *Holi* festival of the present day.

It is no longer a holiday that it was in good old times. The custom having become very old has lost much of its charms. Looking at the origin of this festival one sees that it was inaugurated to celebrate the peace and happiness restored to the country by the destruction of a demoness. It is simply impossible for us who are thousands of generations remote from those who killed that demoness and made their people happy to realize like them the actual relief caused by her death. What is earned by oneself give much more pleasure than what is earned for one by others. Do we remember the glorious deeds of our fathers when a naked sword is hanging over our heads? But if we could by our own efforts remove the sword from off our head to beyond the limits of our jurisdiction or break it to pieces so that we may no longer stand in fear of it, then and then alone would the memory of the great deeds of our forefathers make our hearts cheer up. The wicked *Holi* tried to kill only one person, viz., Prahlad, but now we find thousands of *Holis* are killing crores of Prahlads every day. What we earn for ourselves is being carried away no one knows where by these demonesses for the use of their demon family.

Their sole effort is to carry away what they find in our house, leaving us not even a grain. Seeing these demonesses ready to eat away our very flesh and blood in this fashion, how can we look happy, smiling and find spirit to enjoy the *Holi* festival. If we could burn to death even one of these demonesses as they did with the *Holi*, a thorn would be removed and then, priding in our valour, we could celebrate the *Holi* as of old.

In addition to these obstacles to our happiness, we have other calamities, such as plague, drought, excessive rains, &c., acting like the messengers of that demoness.

URIYA PAPERS.

123. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 16th March states that rinderpest is raging virulently in Gopalghira, Dihasahi and other neighbouring villages in the Balasore district. SAMVAD VAHIKA,
March 16th, 1905.
- Rinderpest in the Balasore district.
124. The same paper states that cholera prevails in the Balasore town and in the interior of the district. Four residents of Gopalga in that town are reported to have died of the fell disease. SAMVAD VAHIKA.
- Cholera in Balasore.
125. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 18th March states that cholera prevails in the Puri town. GARJATBASINI,
March 18th, 1905.
- Cholera in Puri town.
126. The same paper says that rinderpest is raging virulently in Bhubaneswar in the Puri district. GARJATBASINI.
- Rinderpest in Bhubaneswar district.
127. The same paper is sorry to note that mango blossoms in Talcher were destroyed by rain and hailstones. Consequently the prospect of the mango crop in that State is not hopeful. GARJATBASINI.
- The mango crop in Talcher.
128. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 15th March notices the untimely death of Babu Bhutanath Pal, a successful merchant and the editor of the *Tambuli Samaj*, with profound sorrow, and observes that the Tambulis of Bengal have lost a liberal leader, whose place it will be difficult to fill for many years to come. URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
March 15th, 1905.
- The death of Babu Bhutanath Pal mourned.
129. The Puri correspondent of the same paper states that the Manager of the Puri temple is engaged in preparing a list of valuable articles, preserved in sixteen wooden boxes in the outer store-room of the temple. Though the condition of the boxes is very bad, their contents are rich, for they contain gold, diamonds and other valuables that serve as an index to the past prosperity and the lost glory of the Hindu race in India. The writer hopes that the hidden treasure in the inner store-room, generally known as *Amuha Bhandara*, will one day be exposed to the public view. URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.
- The store-room in the Puri temple.
130. The *Utkalāpika* [Cuttack] of the 18th March states that fever and chicken-pox prevail in the Cuttack town and that the temperature is rising day by day. UTKALDIPIKA,
March 18th, 1905.
- Chicken-pox in Cuttack town.
131. The same paper is glad to notice that the garden party held at Lalbag in the last week by Mr. and Mrs. Growse for the entertainment of the European and Indian gentlemen of the Cuttack town was successful in every way, and that the invited guests were much pleased with the goodness and affability of the kind-hearted hosts. UTKALDIPIKA.
- A garden party given by Mr. Growse.
132. The same paper notices with regret the mania among the well-to-do residents of Calcutta who are purchasing artificial diamonds and ornaments inlaid with those diamonds from an American merchant, and observes that the artificial diamond is of no value and that the wealth of the country is passing away needlessly into the hands of foreigners, from whom no equivalent is obtainable. UTKALDIPIKA.
- Tait's diamonds.

UTKALDIPIKA.

133. Referring to the meeting recently held in the Calcutta Town Hall with a view to enter a protest on behalf of the Indian public against the policy of Lord Curzon, the same paper approves of the calmness and moderation with which the proceedings of the meeting were conducted, and observes that though the protest may have no effect on the Viceroy or the Secretary of State for India, it is proper that the people of India should give out in a distinct manner through their representatives what they think of the bureaucratic rule under which they have been placed.

UTKALDIPIKA.

134. Referring to the interpellation in the Bengal Council on the subject of the prospects of the *amla* in Government service in Bengal, the same paper points out that the tardy action of Government exhausts the patience of those ill-paid officers, and the sooner the promised increments are given the better.

UTKALDIPIKA.

135. Referring to the resolution of Government on the establishment of rural primary schools in Bengal, published in a late issue of the *Calcutta Gazette*, the same paper points out that the services of Mr. M. S. Das, C.I.E., in the Bengal Council in 1896 and in 1897 in connection with the educational policy of Government should have been acknowledged in that Resolution, for the Government has after all adopted the policy which Mr. Das recommended so many years ago. The writer therefore concludes that Government does not place much weight on the value of non-official public opinion in Bengal.

STAR OF UTKAL,
March 18th, 1905.

136. The *Star of Utkal* [Cuttack] of the 18th March states that as Government spent a good deal in the last two years in providing private residences for high Government officers employed in Cuttack and Puri, something should be done to provide such accommodation for the ill-paid Munsifs and Deputy Magistrates in those districts, who, no doubt, deserve some consideration.

ASSAM PAPERS.

PARIDARSAN,
March 21st, 1905.

137. The *Paridarsan* [Sylhet] of the 21st March writes:—
Colonel Maxwell. Agent in Manipur, has not scrupled in the least to harass and oppress the Manipuri people.

PARIDARSAN.

138. Referring to a recent notification in the *Assam Gazette* transferring Colonel Maxwell from Assam to Bengal, the same paper remarks:—

There is a policy in everything that Government does.

PARIDARSAN.

139. The same paper also complains about the general prevalence of the offence of pocket-picking as well as of the free circulation of counterfeit coins and the sale of adulterated oil in Kanaibazar in Karimganj.

PARIDARSAN.

140. The same paper, referring to the proposal to create two posts of Inspector of Schools in the Brahmaputra and Surma valleys respectively in Assam, draws the attention of the Chief Commissioner to the claims of the Assamese members of the Education Department upon these posts.

PARIDARSAN.

141. A correspondent of the same paper makes certain allegations against the branch post-master of village Bamoi. It is alleged that often the delivery of letters and newspapers is delayed by a month, and, further, that postcards and stamps are not issued for sale to the public except after a good deal of harassment.

BIDHUBHUSHAN MUKERJEA,

Offg. Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 1st April 1905.

B. S. Press—9194C—78—5.4.1905—C. W.

CONFIDENTIAL.]

[No 13 of 1905.]

REPORT (PART II)

ON

NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending Saturday, 1st April 1905.

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I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

436. Commenting on the effects produced on Russia by her continuous reverses, the *Bengalee* states that the despised little Asiatic race has broken the pride of the greatest Power in Europe so thoroughly that not even hope of retirement is left. This humiliation is the fulfilment of a destiny as striking as it is full of irony. Internal danger is still in the course of development, and the refusal of the French bankers to float another loan adds to the cup of Russia's bitterness. BENGALIEE,
26th March 1905.
437. The *Kayastha Messenger* deprecates the proposal to saddle poor India and her helpless millions with the cost of the Tibetan Expedition, which was undertaken to maintain British prestige and supremacy in the East, to checkmate and counteract the aggressive foreign policy of Russia, and to prevent her from obtaining an upper hand in the Tibetan Durbar. KYASTHA MESSENGER,
27th March 1905.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

438. It is rumoured, says the *Bengalee*, that the assaults on Tahlram Gangaram, the Punjabi preacher, were instigated by the authorities, who offended by his political harangues addressed to students, and considering him too insignificant for prosecution, adopted other means of compelling him to leave Calcutta. BENGALIEE,
25th March 1905.
- Lawlessness in College Square, Calcutta.
- The conduct of the police on both occasions has been responsible for such suspicions in the mind of the people.
439. Commenting on the Hon'ble Babu Ambica Charan Muzumdar's intended question in the Bengal Council, regarding the recent disturbances in College Square, and the Hon'ble Mr. Carnduff's letter postponing a reply to it, the *Bengalee* hopes that in order to put an end to these disturbances, His Honour will issue immediate orders prohibiting all open-air lectures and preachings in all the squares and parks in Calcutta. BENGALIEE,
31st March 1905.
- Ibid.*
440. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* finds that the statement made in the Government Resolution, that the Report of the Police Commission "bears the impress of the representative character of the Commission," does not support Lord Curzon's opinion that truth is more honoured in the West than in the East. AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
25th March 1905.
- The Police Commission.
- The Commission was composed of 5 Europeans and 2 Indians. One of the latter is a Government official, while the other is a Maharaja whose mouth was practically gagged. He was a representative man as long as he fell in with the views of the Government, but he was thrown overboard directly he spoke a word on behalf of his country.
441. The *Bengalee* complains that the Superior Police Service to be recruited by competitive examination in England, has been made even more exclusive than the Indian Civil Service, by reason of the racial distinction which has been introduced in it. The system of limited competition will probably lead to the exclusion of the young relatives of Anglo-Indian officials and others, who proving unfit for anything better, had hitherto found a place provided for them, but open competition alone can uplift the moral and intellectual standard of the police service. BENGALIEE,
25th March 1905.
- Ibid.*
- Indians are excluded because they would easily beat the inferior class of young Englishmen, who now appear at the limited competitive examination. Further, although the European service has been made exclusive, no assurance has been given that the Provincial Service will consist entirely of Indians, nor has any proportion been fixed or number given of District Superintendents to be elected from the Provincial Service.
442. Commenting on the Maharaja of Darbhanga's Note of Dissent appended to the Police Commission's Report, the *Indian Mirror* states that the Maharaja's views regarding the relations between the District Officers and the police, and the INDIAN MIRROR,
26th March 1905.
- Ibid.*

proposed distinction between the appointment of European Assistant Superintendents and Indian Deputy Superintendent are fully in accord with those of educated Indians as well as of a considerable section of the Anglo-Indian public. The separation of judicial from executive functions as regards the Magistracy has been repeatedly urged, but the Indian public must continue agitating both here and in England with greater vigour and persistency before any success can be met with.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
27th March 1905.

443. It is much to be regretted, says the *Hindoo Patriot*, that the Police Commission did not suggest a simultaneous examination in India for introducing capable Indians into

The Police Commission.

the superior service, and that the well-meaning and benevolent Secretary of State for India did not fix a definite educational standard for Indian candidates nominated to that service. The journal considers that the new method of recruiting District Superintendents from the rank of Deputy Superintendent is an improvement upon the old as it enables such officers to display their energies while they are still young. It is admitted that laudable attempts have been made to reform the police.

BENGALIEE,
29th March 1905.

444. The new class of Deputy Superintendents, will not, says the *Bengalee*, be recruited "solely among Indians," for in anticipation of the Resolution on the Police

Ibid.

Commission's Report, the Government of Bengal and other Provincial Governments and Administrations have been quietly adding to the number of European Inspectors during the past two years. This fact, combined with the general policy of the present Government of India to reduce the Indian element in the higher ranks of the public service, renders the chances of an Indian Inspector being promoted to the rank of Deputy Superintendent very slender.

BENGALIEE,
31st March 1905.

445. Writing on the character of the police as revealed by the Report of the Commission, the *Bengalee* considers that the inefficiency of the supervising and controlling

Ibid.

agency is responsible for the morale of the force. The new scheme raises the starting salary of Assistant Superintendents to the same amount as that of a civilian, and the journal advocates a system of open competition, so as to obtain superior men and thus raise the moral and intellectual level of the higher grades of the service.

(d)—Education.

BEHAR HERALD,
25th March 1905.

446. The *Behar Herald* recommends the adoption of the entire scheme of vernacular primary education in the Bankipore

The High School for Girls at Bankipore.

Female High School, and urges the necessity of employing a Brahmin lady teacher for the Hindi

language. The services of this teacher could also be utilised by parents who desire to educate their girls at home.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
25th March 1905.

447. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* condemns the new system of primary education introduced by Mr. Pedler, as it defeats its object by the multiplicity of difficult subjects

Educational reform.

which the young undeveloped mind has to grapple with.

For the education of the agriculturists' sons, the journal advocates the opening of a separate class in the village schools, and suggests that a separate course of study, meeting their actual requirements in every-day life, be prescribed for them. There is no necessity to murder the Bengali language for this purpose.

INDIAN MIRROR,
26th March 1905.

448. While expressing satisfaction at the proposal of the Government to establish rural primary schools for agricultural

Rural primary schools.

classes, the *Indian Mirror* refers to the unanimous

disapproval of the scheme to get the text-books written in the spoken dialects of the country and urges the Government to maintain the standards of modern Bengali and Hindi for all schools in Bengal and Bihar respectively. A simple and intelligible style of writing should be insisted upon, and the best suitable text-books may be obtained by public competition.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
30th March 1905.

449. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* criticises the present system of selecting text-books and complains that under the rule of Mr. Pedler and his "experts," the same book or

Selection of text-books.

books are prescribed year after year and for all the Divisions alike, though there may be other books of the same nature approved by the Text-book Committee,

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

450. Writing on the subject of the recrudescence of plague in Calcutta, the *Indian Mirror* notices that the largest number of cases occur in crowded parts and *bustees*, which

INDIAN MIRROR,
25th March 1905.

The plague. are highly filthy and insanitary, and the inmates of which are not used to habits of cleanliness. The journal considers that the *bustees* should be pulled down and the streets in crowded parts widened to admit more light and air. The Corporation also should keep the roads and lanes as clean as possible and lay down the dust at least twice a day.

451. Referring to the strictures passed by Justices Stephen and Henderson on the conduct of a Municipal Commissioner of Calcutta, in their judgment in the goods of Gopal Lal Seal, the *Bengalee* asks the Commissioners to consider if a person about whom the High Court has expressed such an opinion, can properly sit as their representative on the General Committee. It is essential for their good name that such a person should not occupy any position of public trust or responsibility.

BENGALIEE,
26th March 1905.

452. A correspondent of the *Indian Empire* complains of the intolerable nuisance that is being committed owing the Howrah Municipality allowing a tank in Koldanga Road, Sulkea, to be filled up without first having the water pumped out. Dead animals are thrown into the water along with the sweepings of the town, and they rot and foul the atmosphere of the locality, which is thickly populated.

INDIAN EMPIRE,
28th March 1905.

(g)—*Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.*

453. A correspondent of the *Bengalee* reports a case illustrating the ill-treatment to which Indian gentlemen travelling by rail, are subjected at the hands of their European and Eurasian fellow-passengers.

BENGALIEE,
30th March 1905.

Troubles of an Indian Railway Passenger. The Indian in question alighted at Poradah station from the Chittagong Down Mail on the 18th March and on entering the refreshment room was abused and threatened by two Europeans, who objected to his presence. On this the Babu brandished his *lathi* and expressed his intention of using it if they dared utter another uncivil word. He was again insulted by another European for presuming to travel in a first-class compartment, and on refusing to vacate it, the European left with the remark that the company of natives provoked him beyond endurance.

454. A correspondent of the *Bengalee* complains of the unfairness on the part of the Railway authorities in setting apart a whole train, No. 102 Down, exclusively for produce-vendors instead of attaching two or more carriages for other passengers. On the 25th March several would-be passengers at Balliaghatta were not allowed to travel by this train, while a man bearing a slip from Mr. Skeaf, Assistant District Traffic Superintendent of the Eastern Bengal State Railway, was permitted to do so.

BENGALIEE,
26th March 1905.

(h)—*General.*

455. The *Reis and Rayyet* quotes numerous instances of the effect produced on individuals or bodies by obnoxious utterances of persons of high rank on certain measures of the Government, and states that after Lord Curzon's defamation of the entire East, absolute silence would have been most impolitic. What little has been done was the least that could be attempted.

REIS RAYYET,
25th March 1905.

456. The rambling and prevaricating nature of the Government's reply to the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale's further question regarding the number of new appointments created by Government during the last 12 years, shows the manner in which Westerners have secured, such a high ideal of the truth for themselves.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
25th March 1905.

INDIAN MIRROR,
25th March 1905.

457. Commenting on the present state of progress in India, the *Indian Mirror* acknowledges that British rule has done and is doing much to ameliorate the condition of the people, but it considers that the Indians should avail themselves of the golden opportunity to better their lot. They should learn the modern arts and sciences which have made Europe, America and Japan so great, and develop the resources of the country with Indian capital, labour and skill. Employment should be found for all Indian artisans and handicraftsmen, the lot of the agriculturists should be improved, and articles of daily use and consumption should be manufactured by Indians. Society also requires reformation, and the journal urges the abolition of all obnoxious social customs that impede progress. The rulers must be made to realize the necessity and importance of a sympathetic rule, and the people must make them understand their hopes and legitimate aspirations and pray, in a constitutional manner, for those rights and privileges to which they are justly entitled.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
27th March 1905.

458. Commenting on the Financial Statement presented by the Hon'ble Mr. Baker, the *Hindoo Patriot* criticises the omission to make any provision for carrying out the much-needed reform of separating the judicial from the executive functions. Substantial relief to the poor middle classes should have been afforded by raising the taxable minimum income to Rs. 2,000, and the postal concession affecting letters might well have been applied to book packets. The small revenue derived from the sale of forest produce could well be dispensed with, and a free distribution of such products as dead firewood, etc., would afford relief to the poor cultivators.

BENGALER,
28th March 1905.

459. The *Bengalee* congratulates the Hon'ble Mr. Baker on his Financial Statement and reviews the measures to which it has been resolved to apply the surplus. The salt-tax is pronounced to be a barbarous imposition; the expenditure on education is found to be insignificant, while it is hoped that the grant to District and Local Boards will be a permanent one and spent, at least in Bengal, in providing a pure and adequate supply of water. Great doubts are felt about the success of the scheme of police reform, owing to the want of the willing co-operation of the people, for no self-respecting community can submit to an irritating racial distinction. A further raising of the minimum taxable income and the remission of excise duty on Indian-manufactured cotton goods would have been welcomed by the people.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
29th March 1905.

460. The immediate effect of the new Financial Statement is, says the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, a loss of about 20 lakhs to Bengal, and His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor should have protested against this gross injustice on the part of the Supreme Government.

The journal gives facts and figures to show that the Imperial Exchequer will benefit every year from the revenues of Bengal, while the local Government will have to make the most of the Imperial grant of fifty lakhs, unless the Supreme Government throws a few crumbs occasionally for its assistance, out of sheer pity. Such grants as those made for indigo experiments, for the benefit of Calcutta nurses, for the Dow Hill Girls' School, Kurseong, are objected to on the score that they benefit only the Christian and not the Hindu and Musalman tax-payers.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
31st March 1905.

461. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* condemns Lord Curzon's professions of love for India, while he arrogates to himself the faculty of knowing the people better than they know themselves and deals personally with their grievances. It considers that the Maharaja of Darbhanga voiced the opinion of the whole Indian nation when he suggested that the Viceroy should dispose of surpluses in consultation with the public bodies in the country. Lord Ripon gained the love of the people by mixing freely with the Indian leaders and seeking their advice, but Lord Curzon's attitude towards them is one of deep-rooted prejudice and antipathy. His Lordship states that he feels keenly for the humble millions, and he also said he was pained at the spectacle of foreigners sucking the moisture of the soil which should sustain its children. If both these assertions are genuine, Lord Curzon cannot do better than reduce his own pay and ask his colleagues to follow his noble example.

462. Commenting on some of the points raised by Lord Curzon in his Budget speech, the *Bengalee* finds that he has not made the faintest attempt to refute the charge that

BENGALKE,
31st March 1905.

Ibid.

the Government takes from the people more revenue than it is entitled to, and more than is necessary for the administration of the country. His reply to the charge of exclusion of Indians from higher appointments in public service is neither convincing nor quite worthy of one occupying his exalted position. No explanation of the reason why the liberal policy of promoting every three years, two Inspectors of Police to the rank of District Superintendents, has been reversed, and the journal does not accept His Excellency's interpretation of the passages quoted by him from the late Queen's Proclamation, which lays down the test of fitness, irrespective of "race or creed." As the Army reorganization scheme will benefit future generations more than the present, it is not considered fair to impose the whole burden upon the shoulders of the present generation.

463. The *Indian Empire* comments on the duties which have devolved on District Magistrates from the year 1793 and states that the evils arising from a combination of the Judicial and executive functions are manifest in different ways and are admitted by the rulers and the ruled. The qualities of a judicial officer will not be developed in an Indian official as long as the functions are not separated.

INDIAN EMPIRE,
28th March 1905.

The urgent need for this reform has been repeatedly urged, and it is hoped that Lord Curzon in his second term of Viceroyalty will give effect to it and thereby gain the gratitude of the people.

464. The *Hindoo Patriot* condemns the views expressed by the writer in the *Times*, who advocates augmenting the European Volunteer force in India, and puts forward various reasons why Indians are so desirous of being enrolled as volunteers. Invidious distinctions between Eurasians and Indians are calculated to cast a slur upon the loyalty of the latter and cool their interest and enthusiasm in the common cause.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
28th March 1905.

The Mogal Emperors adopted heartily and completely the policy of trust, whereas the British Government on the contrary has adopted a policy of suspicion.

465. The *Indian Mirror* dwells on the agitation among the landholders of Bengal owing especially to the proposals regarding the Bengal Tenancy Act, and considers that the zamindars are entitled to demand the appointment of a Commission to enquire into the relationship existing between them and their tenants, before anything is done to curtail their already diminished rights.

INDIAN MIRROR,
30th March 1905.

466. Referring to the advertisement calling for European and Eurasian candidates for employment as signallers in the Government Telegraph Department, the *Indian Mirror* strongly objects to any branch of the public service forming the monopoly of any particular class or classes. It attributes the exclusion of Indians to Lord Curzon and pronounces it to be only an instance of the various retrograde and repressive measures H. E. has initiated.

INDIAN MIRROR,
30th March 1905.

III.—LEGISLATION.

467. Referring to the Bill to amend the Court-fees Act for settling the question of stamp duty payable by the landlord to eject a tenant, the *Hindoo Patriot* approves of the opinion of the Government of India that the fees should be computed upon the rent as representing the value of the tenant right, since this is neither unreasonable or excessive. This rule would, however, prove a great hardship to tenants who use the lands for a period less than a year, and it is suggested that the tax be levied upon the amount payable for the actual period of tenancy.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
25th March 1905.

The Government should also finally settle the amount of court-fees to be paid on the annulment of incumbrance cases both under the Bengal Tenancy Act, VII of 1885, and the Revenue Sale Act, XI of 1859.

INDIAN MIRROR,
25th March 1905.

468. Writing on the duties of representative members of the Legislative Council, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* enumerates some of the principal events of the year, which ought to engage their attention. They should submit that as they were given no opportunity of discussing the principles of the Local Self-Government Bill they should be allowed to do so before it is referred to a Select Committee. The proposed jute Bill is another measure which threatens the liberty of every raiyat in Bengal proper. It is described as an attempt to Russianize British administration in India. The discontent created by the abolition of the competitive test in the Provincial Service should also be voiced by the members.

Other matters, such as the proposed Rent Bill and proposed dismemberment of the Bengali language, require their attention, and the urgent necessity of pure drinking water should be emphasised by reminding His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor as vividly as possible that the nation is dying fast.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
30th March 1905.

469. The *Indian Mirror* refers to the presence of Muhammadans at the Congress meeting held in Benares, and comments favourably on the speech of one of them, who testified to the non-sectarian character of the movement. This is an indication of the revival of harmonious relations which existed between the Hindus and Muhammadans in the days of Akbar, and should remove the suspicion that the Congress is entirely a Hindu organisation and seeks to promote Hindu interests alone.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
30th March 1905.

470. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* publishes an article from its London correspondent regarding the formation of the "Indian Home Rule Society" which intends carrying on a vigorous propaganda in the United Kingdom in furtherance of its purpose of enlightening the people of India as to the advantages of freedom and national unity. The members have bound themselves to resist the cramping influence of the bureaucracy and work for justice in India.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
25th March 1905.

471. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* publishes a letter from a correspondent at Bankipur stating that some interested people are trying to undo the effect of the protest meetings recently held at Calcutta and Madras, in connection with Lord Curzon's Convocation speech. The Bihar Landholders' Association are being forced to present an address to His Excellency on the occasion of his visit to Pusa. The address has been drafted by a high official, who is under special obligation to the Viceroy, and, without any consultation or meeting of the members, it has been arranged that about a dozen of the leading members will form a deputation for the purpose. The public will never believe in the genuineness of such a demonstration, and the journal hopes that Lord Curzon will not encourage it.

OFFICE OF THE INSPR.-GENERAL
OF POLICE, L. P.

WRITERS' BUILDINGS,

The 1st April 1905.

F. C. DALY,

Asst. to the Insp.-General of Police, L.P.